

867 M 927/-21 Bound.

(11,457)

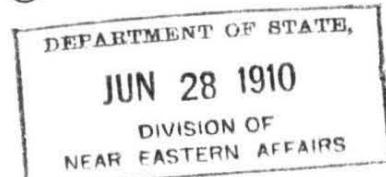
JUN
25
1910

BARNARD COLLEGE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICAL PHILOLOGY

Honorable P. C. Knox,
Secretary of State
Washington, D. C., Answered, June 29/10

Dear Sir:



As I am about to apply
to the authorities of the Ottoman Government
for permission to conduct archaeological
excavation in Asia Minor I respectfully
petition the Department of State to use
its good offices with the Ottoman Government
toward assisting me to obtain the
desired concession.

Very respectfully,

T. Leslie Shear

JUL 14
FILED.

June 29, 1910.

Mr. T. Leslie Shear,
Barnard College, Columbia University,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant requesting the good offices of this Department in support of an application which you are about to make to the Ottoman Government for permission to conduct archaeological excavations in Asia Minor.

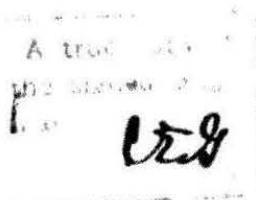
It is requested that you submit a full statement of the plans and purposes of the expedition you propose to organize, so that the Department may be able intelligently to instruct the American Embassy at Constantinople concerning the matter.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Huntington Ladd
Acting Secretary of State.

11457/22
3 G 4





BARNARD COLLEGE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICAL PHILOLOGY

Hon. P. C. Knox

Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I have at present pending before the Imperial Ottoman Government an application for a firman to excavate in accordance with the Ottoman regulations the ancient city of Cnidus, situated on the point now called Cape Krios in the province of Aidin about fifteen miles opposite the Island of Kos. I am about to start for Constantinople in order to press this matter and beg that the American Embassy at Constantinople may be instructed to use its good offices with the Ottoman Government toward helping me to obtain the desired concession.

Copy to Cyle
Jan 31, 1911.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, 19

JAN 23 1911
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

Ans'd, Jan. 23, 1911

File CWF

1911 867m.927
INDEX BUREAU
23

Respectfully yours

T. Leslie Shear

W.

867m. P27

32/3

January 23, 1911.

Mr. T. Leslie Shear,
Barnard College, Columbia University,
New York City.

Sir:

The Department has received your letter of the 19th instant, wherein you request that the Embassy at Constantinople be instructed to use its good offices with the Ottoman Government toward assisting you to obtain a concession for conducting archaeological excavations on the site of the ancient city of Cnidus, in western Asia Minor.

In reply I refer you to the Department's letter of June 29, 1910, a copy of which is enclosed herewith, wherein you were requested to submit a full statement of the plans and purposes of the expedition which you propose to organize. This statement should

include

include information as to your citizenship and as to the individuals or the organization under whose auspices you are undertaking this work.

On receipt of the desired statement from you the Department will send suitable instructions to the Embassy at Constantinople and, if necessary, to the Consulate-General at Smyrna.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

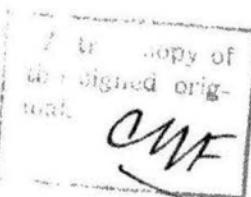
P. C. KNOX

Enclosure:

To T. Leslie Shear,
June 29, 1910.

867 m. 927/28

3 F/Ply.





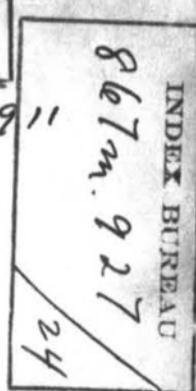
BARNARD COLLEGE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
NEW YORK

Ans'd, & copied to
Cle., Jan. 31, 1911. 3 W
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 30 1911 4
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

January 25, 1911

corrected copy sent
to Turkey, Feb. 28, 1911.

File CWT



Honorable P. C. Knox,
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your request for further information in regard to my proposed archaeological work at Cnidus in Asia Minor permit me to state that I am an American citizen, a Doctor of Philosophy of Johns Hopkins University and at present Associate in Classical Philology at Columbia University. I expect to conduct excavations myself, with such assistants as I may select, at my own expense for purely scientific purposes, all objects discovered being placed in the Ottoman Museum in accordance with the Ottoman law.

Very truly yours

T. Leslie Shear

No. 193.

January 31, 1911.

867 m. 927 24

John R. Carter, Esquire.

Minister Plenipotentiary in temporary charge of
American Embassy,
Constantinople.

Sir:

I enclose herewith for your information copies
of letters from T. Leslie Shear, of Columbia University,
on the subject of the archaeological excavations which
he hopes to conduct at Cnidus, in Asia Minor.

You are requested to extend to Mr. Shear, when
occasion demands, such assistance as may be necessary
and proper.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

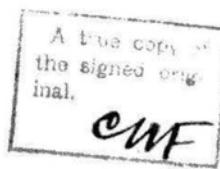
P. C. KNOX

Enclosures:

From T. Leslie Shear.
June 24, 1910.
January 19, 1911.
January 25, 1911.

867 m. 927/22-24

3 F/P1



W

867 m. 927/24

January 31, 1911.

Mr. T. Leslie Shear,
Barnard College, Columbia University,
New York City.

Sir:

I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th instant, wherein you give certain information regarding the archaeological excavations which you propose to conduct at Cnidus, in Asia Minor.

Copies of your letters on this subject have been transmitted to the Embassy at Constantinople, with instructions to afford you such assistance as may be necessary and proper.

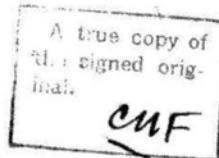
I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

867 m. 927/24

3 P/P/14.



No. 217.

February 28, 1911.

867 m. 927/24

John R. Carter, Esquire,

Minister Plenipotentiary in temporary charge of
American Embassy, Constantinople.

Sir:

The Department has received your unnumbered despatch of the 11th instant, in reference to the assistance which may be desired by Mr. T. Leslie Shear, who hopes to conduct certain archaeological excavations at Onidus, Asia Minor.

In connection with this matter I enclose herewith for the files of the Embassy a corrected copy of Mr. Shear's letter of January 25th last addressed to the Department.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

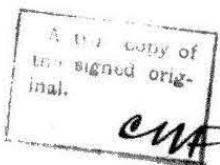
P. C. KNOX

Enclosure:

From T. Leslie Shear,
January 25, 1911.

867 m. 927/24

3 P/Ply.



TELEGRAM SENT. 3 Y/FY. VI

Department of State, Cakfy 4pm

Washington, February 16, 1911.



Amembassy,

Constantinople.

The Department is informed that the Mutesarrif of Benghazi is preventing Norton's work of excavation at Cyrene on certain portions of land covered by Irade. Investigate and afford proper assistance to American expedition.

Wilson.

H + C / 126 mch 9-8

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

Index Bu.—No. 50.

OK
520 fm 16 Feb 16, 1911, EX + Rn

To



TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

File copy

letter to Mr. Carroll,
Feb 18, 1911,
CABLE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

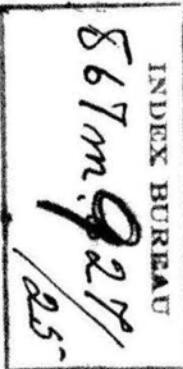
F FEB 17 1911

DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

From Pera)

Dated Feb. 17, 1911,

Rec'd 10:40 A. M. Feb. 17, 1911.



Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

February 17, 12 noon.

Your telegram Feb. 16, 4 p. M. Difficulty at Cyrene already arranged. Have been in communication with Norton and the Turkish authorities for the past two months.

C A R T E R

FILED
FEB 18 1911

2377
Deciphered by

Index Bu. - No. 51.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

SION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

2-17-11

Index: (Mr. Blodwood)
herewith copy of
papers on which we based
telegram yesterday to
Turkey. The originals
are being returned
to Mr. Carroll, who
brought them in.

FILE
E. E. Y.

CWT

(Copy-Pl)



FILE
E. E. Y.

3 h.
February 10, 1911.

Museum of Fine Arts,
Boston, Mass.

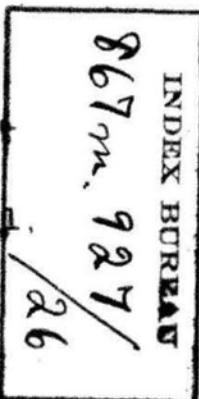
My dear Kelsey:

This morning I received the enclosed letter from Norton. I had supposed that Armour would attend to this request.

Now would you send one copy of M's letter to Carroll, with a request that he get our State Department to cable our Embassy in Constantinople as promptly as possible? Or do you see some better way to deal with the difficulty?

Faithfully yours,

Arthur Fairbanks.



FILE
FEB 18 1911

Professor J. M. Kelsey.

Copy.

Cyrene,

January 16, 1911.

Dear Fairbanks:

On the first page of my last Report to you (December 31st) and the Cyrene Committee I mentioned that neither our Embassy in Constantinople nor Halil Bey had answered any of my various letters and telegrams, sent since our arrival here, in which I have asked information concerning the conduct of the work. Allow me once more to ask you to take this matter up at your earliest convenience. The reason I repeat and emphasize this is the following. I have today learned from the Mudir that the Mutessarrif (Murad Fuad) in Bengazi has sent his orders that we are to be allowed to dig only within certain limits. Were these limits sensible I should say nothing, but the boundary on the north is ridiculous for it cuts out the region around the fountain and all below the Sousa Road. I cannot believe that these directions of the Mutessarrif have any authority from Halil Bey and I can readily believe that the Italians or Hadj Said Nijin (the first temporary commissaire) have a finger in the attempt to exclude us from the gardens, which as you know are immediately below where we are now at work and are one of the most important parts

of

of the ruins. I am just on the point of settling with the owners the question of compensation if we dig the gardens, so it is necessary that the Mutessarif should be told not to interfere. With his letter to the Mudir the Mutessarif sent a map to show the extent of land we might excavate. I shall send you in a day or two a photograph of this and you will see it is only a wretched copy of Smith and Procters map. The Mudir was utterly unable to make head or tail of it till I explained it to him. I shall write to Halil Bey about this, but there no likelihood of my getting an answer from him. Consequently I shall be greatly obliged to you if you can bring the foregoing facts to his attention and also to get an answer from him in regard to mapping. If you can telegraph him it would be well.

The diggings are going on well, as well as could be expected considering the miserable character of the workmen we have to employ. Even Greeks would do twice as much work as these Arabs do.

Believe me,

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Richard Norton.

February 16, 1911.

Mr. Mitchell Carroll, General Secretary
of the Archaeological Institute of America,
The Octagon, 1741 New York Avenue,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring to your recent call at the Department, when you discussed the difficulties encountered by Mr. Richard Norton in the prosecution of his archaeological excavations at Cyrene, North Africa, on behalf of your Institute, I am happy to inform you that in reply to a telegraphic inquiry sent yesterday to the Embassy at Constantinople the Department is informed that the difficulties spoken of have already been adjusted. The Embassy adds that it has been in communication with Mr. Norton and with the Ottoman authorities for a considerable period of time in connection with this matter.

I return

92/Lv 6 m 198

I return herewith the papers which you left at the Department in regard to this subject. Copies of these papers have been retained for the files of the Department.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosures:

From Richard Norton to Fairbanks,
January 16, 1911;

From Arthur Fairbanks to Professor J. M. Kellogg,
February 10, 1911.
(Originals returned.)

3 F/Ply.

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

CWF

8.61.92



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY



File
CWF

Copied to Turkey M

FEB. 27, 1911

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
F FEB 24 1911
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS
9

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Feb. 21, 1911.

(Seen by Mr.)
Carr, Feb. 21.

The Secretary of State,
Washington,
D. C.

INDEX BUREAU
867m. 927
27

My dear Sir:

I beg to acknowledge your esteemed communication of February 18, in regard to the difficulties encountered by Mr. Richard Norton in the prosecution of his archaeological excavations at Cyrene under the auspices of the Archaeological Institute. On behalf of the officers of the Institute, I beg to express our appreciation of the promptness and effectiveness with which you have responded to the request made by me a few days ago, and I am glad to know that the Embassy at Constantinople has already adjusted the difficulties.

I am, Sir,

Respectfully yours,

Mitchell Carroll

FEB 27 1911
FILE

No. 214.

February 27, 1911.

867 m. 927/27

John R. Carter, Esquire,

Minister Plenipotentiary in temporary charge of
American Embassy, Constantinople.

Sir:

Referring to the Department's telegram of the 16th instant and your reply of the following day, concerning the assistance desired on behalf of the American Archaeological Institute, excavating at Cyrene, North Africa, under the direction of Mr. Richard Norton, I enclose herewith for your information and for the files of the Embassy a copy of the Department's letter of the 18th instant to Mr. Carroll, General Secretary of the Archaeological Institute of America, together with a copy of Mr. Carroll's reply, dated February 21st.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

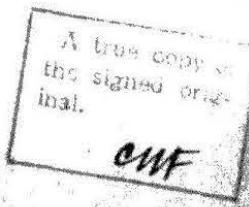
P. C. KNOX

Enclosures:

To Mitchell Carroll, February 18, 1911;
From same, February 21, 1911.

867 m. 927/27

3 P/Ply.

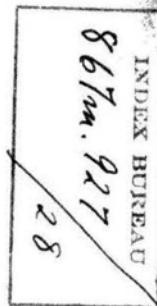
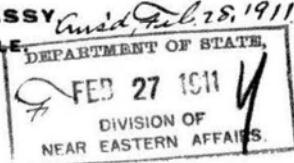




AMERICAN EMBASSY, *Ans'd Feb. 28, 1911*
CONSTANTINOPLE, DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

File copy

February 11, 1911.



INDEX BUREAU
FILED
FEB 11 1911

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the Department's Instruction No. 193 of the 31st ultimo, with enclosures, relative to the desire of T. Leslie Shear to conduct archaeological excavations at Cnidus, Asia Minor.

In accordance with the Department's Instructions, every possible assistance will be rendered to Mr. Shear when occasion demands.

It may be remarked that the fact of the applicant being an Armenian citizen, as appears from his letter to the Department of the 25th ultimo, may render the obtention of the above permission more difficult than might otherwise be the case.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. R. Carter

D

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

3 w

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
PLAIN
MAR 15 1911
10²⁰ DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.



From Berna, summary

Undated,

FILE
E. E. Y.

Rec'd March 14 1911, 8:30 P. M.

867m. 92729
INDEX BUREAU

Secretary of State,
Washington.

Decau, one of party sent to Archaeological Institute MAR 21 1911
of America to Cyrene, killed March eleventh by Arabs sent
for purpose. Local report says they were sent directly
or indirectly by Italian. FILE

RICHARD NORTAN
Director.

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

Markoff
Dear Mr. Hob -

Am preparing
Abyssinian Embassy
and Constantinople
and will see about
it as soon as possible
and today. -

E. E. G.

H.C. LODGE, CHAIRMAN.

UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE PHILIPPINES



DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

MAR 15 1911

DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

March 14, 1911

My dear Mr. Hale:-

The Boston Museum of Fine Arts and the Archaeological Institute of America have been carrying on researches in Cyrene on the north coast of Africa by permission of the Turkish Government. They were at first granted a guard of sixty soldiers but this was later reduced to nine or ten and Mr. Gardiner M. Lane of the Boston Museum has just received word that a member of the expedition, Mr. Decon, has been murdered by Arabs. He tells me also that the Italian archaeologists have been very jealous of this privilege and that he has received a cable which states: "Suspect Italian investigation", which is doubtless a mistake and means "instigation". I should be very glad if you could have the matter looked up at once.

Very truly yours,

Hon. Chandler Hale,

State Department.

INDEX

FILED

MAR 10 1911

867m.92750

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

March 16, 1911.

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Herewith draft of
telegrams to the Embas-
sies at Constantinople
and Rome in the sense
requested by Mr. Armour
and Professor Carroll.

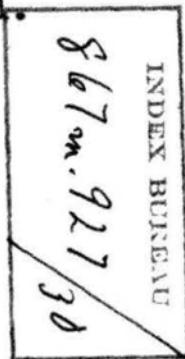
MAR 16 1911

Edd

TELEGRAM SENT. 3 Y/FY L

Department of State, Dakky 6 pm

Washington, March 16, 1911.



Amembassy,

Constantinople.

Confidential// Discreetly/ ascertain and report
by/cable/whether/attitude of/Hallil, Director of/Museum/
and other/interested/Ottoman officials/is/unfriendly to/
the American/expedition/excavating/at/Cyrene.

Wilson.

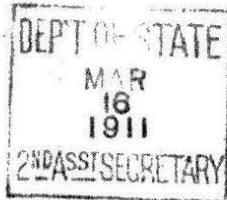
Enciphered by

OK

Sent by operator

745th Mar 15th, 1911, OX + NO

Index Bu.—No. 50.

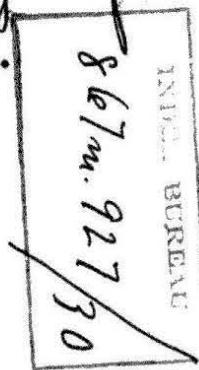


TELEGRAM SENT. 3 Y/FY. L



Department of State, Dakky, Legia

Washington, March 16, 1911.



Ambassy,

Rome.

Confidential. Endeavor (discreetly) to ascertain whether there is opposition on the part of the Italian Government towards the American archaeological expedition at Cyrene. If so, to what degree and how exerted?

Wilson.

Enciphered by

by operator

Index Bu. - No. 59.

2
940pm March 16, 1911, OX + NO

T.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

CIPHER

3 W

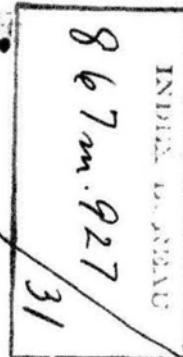
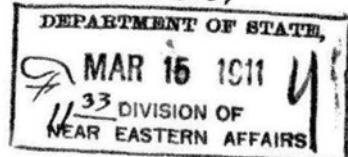
From Pera,

Dated March 15, 1911

Rec'd 9:50 a.m.



Ans. March 15.



File
ent

MAR 21 1911
FILED

Secretary of State,
Washington.

March 15, 11 a.m.

Telegram received from Norton at Derna stating that one of his party, Mr. Dickinson, was murdered on March eleventh by two Arabs sent there for the purpose, it is reported. British Ambassador is informed and that there is no local disturbance.

British Ambassador is informed by his consul at Benghazi that names of Arabs are known and soldiers have been sent by local authorities to arrest them.

Have communicated this regrettable incident to the Sublime Porte.

■ A R T E R

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

TELEGRAM SENT. 3 Y/FY.

13 WWT

Department of State,



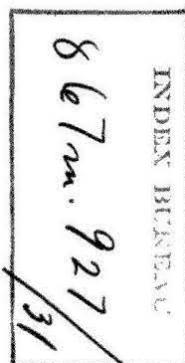
Richard Norton,

Derna (North Africa).

Washington, March 15, 1911.

19

Paid Gov't



INDEX BUREAU

Appropriate instructions have been cabled to the
Embassy at Constantinople.

William H. Nelson

Acting Secretary of State.

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

830 AM MARCH 15, 1911. OX TR

Index Bu.—No. 50.

TELEGRAM SENT. 3 Y/F *W* 7

Department of State,

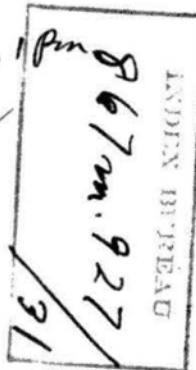
Washington, March 15, 1911.

Amembassy,

Constantinople.



Dagby



Your telegram March 15, 11 a.m. ~~Care matter your~~
~~careful attention~~ Request through your British Colleague/
the assistance of British Consul at Benghazi in securing/
the apprehension and punishment of guilty parties and in the/
matter of affording proper protection to members of the/
expedition.

Wilson

Enciphered by *JAB*

Sent by operator *124 P.M. 15*

M., 1911, *J.W.G.*

Index Bu.—No. 50.

W

March 15, 1911.

My dear Senator Lodge:

I have just received yours of today's date regarding the murder of Mr. DeGolyer of the party sent by the Archeological Institute of America to Cyrene, and enclose copy of a cablegram from Jack Carter, the Acting head of our Embassy at Constantinople, which shows that he has already taken the matter up with the Turkish Government.

15/31

Carter, as you know, is a good man and I feel sure that he has already insisted upon adequate protection being afforded the rest of the party so long as they may stay in Cyrene. However, to make assurance doubly sure, we are cabling him instructions to the above effect.

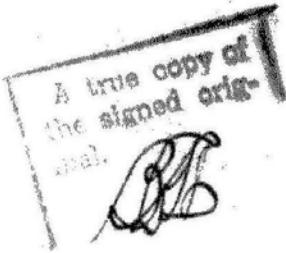
You say that the first guard of sixty soldiers granted the party by the Turkish Government was reduced later

The Honorable Henry Cabot Lodge,
1765 Massachusetts Avenue,
Washington.

later to nine or ten, but I think this was probably done at the request of Norton himself in order to reduce the expense of feeding so many men. I will keep you informed of anything further we may receive from Constantinople.

Very truly yours,

Chandler Hale



D

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

PLAIN

3 W

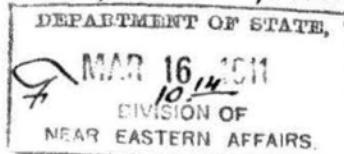


From Ann Arbor, Michigan,

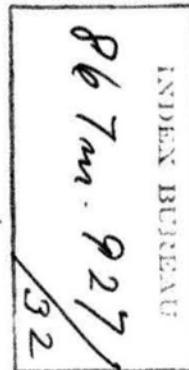
Dated March 15 1911,

Rec'd 4:40 P. M.

Ans'd, Mar. 21, 1911.



File copy
32



Separment of state,
Washington.

Herbert Fletcher Decou, American citizen, excavating for Archaeological Institute of America at Cyrene under ^{MAR} ~~financ~~ and protection of Ottoman Government, was killed March eleventh by arabs sent for this purpose according to report by Italian influence.

Allison V. Amour, one of three commissioners in charge of excavation, will call at State department upon this subject tomorrow.

FILED
21

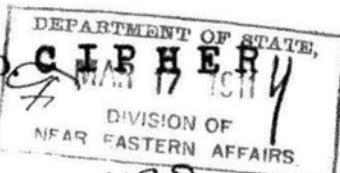
FRANCIS W. KELSEY,
President, Archaeological Institution.

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

ta

TELEGRAM RECEIVED



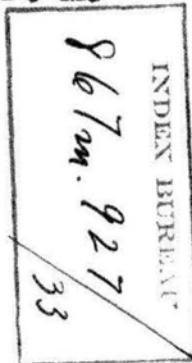
From Pera,

1135

FILE
E. R. A.

Dated March 16 1911,

Rec'd 5:30 P. M.



Secretary of State,
Washington

March 16. 2p. m.

Your telegram March 15, 1 p. m. Have requested British Ambassador to instruct his Consul to give expedition at Derna proper protection and support. Meanwhile Minister for Foreign Affairs before receiving my communication sent to the Embassy to express his sympathy and regret at the incident and voluntarily assured me that the Government were taking the most active measures to see that the murderers were promptly punished. Received telegram from Norton today saying local situation still good and recommending the temporary arrest of certain Sheiks as a salutary warning to Arabs in the surrounding country and expressing hope that the excavations would not be stopped by the authorities on account of the murder. I have communicated all this to Rifaat who thoroughly realizes situation in all its aspects

and

Deciphered by

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

Two *From Pera.*

and only two months ago at Norton's recommendation sent detachment soldiers in addition to those already there for the protection of expedition which for political and other reasons this Government is only too glad to have there.

C A R T E R

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

2

867 m. 927

EE

March 18, 1911.

Professor Mitchell Carroll,

Secretary of the Archaeological Institute of America,

The Octagon, Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring to recent correspondence and conversation on the subject of the expedition excavating at Cyrene, North Africa, on behalf of the Archaeological Institute of America, I enclose herewith, for the confidential information of yourself and of your associates of the Institute, a paraphrase of a telegram received by the Department from Minister Carter, dated at Constantinople on the 16th instant.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosure:

From American Embassy, Constantinople,
March 16, 1911, telegram.

867 M 927/
3 F/Ply.

is copy of
signed orig.

CWF

Paraphrase of Telegram Received from
the American Embassy,
Constantinople, March 16, 1911.

FILE
E. E. Y.

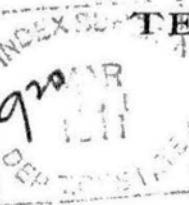
Secretary of State,

Washington.

The Embassy has requested the British Ambassador at Constantinople to instruct his Consul at Benghazi to extend all proper protection and support to the expedition. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of his own accord sent to the Embassy to express his sympathy and regret at the incident and voluntarily assured Minister Carter that most active measures were being taken by the Government to punish the murderers promptly. Mr. Norton has telegraphed that the local situation is quiet. He recommends the temporary arrest of certain of the Arab Sheikhs, as a salutary warning to the Arabs of the region, and hopes that the authorities will not, because of this murder, make the excavations stop. All this has been communicated by the Embassy to the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs, Rifaat Pasha, who realizes all phases of the situation. Only two months ago, at Norton's request, Rifaat Pasha sent a new detachment of soldiers to protect the expedition, which the Government is very glad to have remain and continue its work.

CARTER.

3 W
CIPHER

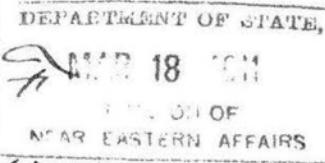


TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

From Rome,

March 17, 1911,

Rec'd 5:30 p.m.



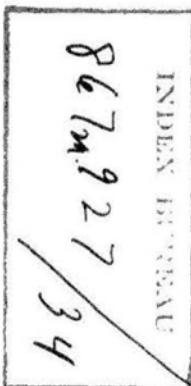
Letter to Mr. Carroll, Mar. 29, 1911.

FILE
N. Y.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

March 17, 5 p.m.

Confidential. Replying to your telegram March 16,
6 p.m. While no particular objection could exist against
the Archeological expedition upon its real merits as a
scientific expedition, considerable opposition exists in
certain quarters owing to the suspicion which is devoid of
foundation that the Archeological work is only a blind to
cover up development with a view to obtaining mining conces-
sions, particularly sulphur, and the Government has been
frequently interpolated in the Chamber of Deputies regarding
this matter. Although no open objection has ever been made
the Italian Government, while continuing to maintain a
jealous eye upon the Ottoman possessions in Tripoli and
Bengazi, naturally looks with disfavor upon the establishment
of any foreign interests in these parts which might possibly



MAR 21 1911
FILED

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

From
Rome, March 17, 5 p.m.

Sheet 2

interfere with the eventual realization of their ambitions and desires and as these facts are well understood by the Turks they are naturally reluctant about granting concessions which has caused considerable friction between the two governments.

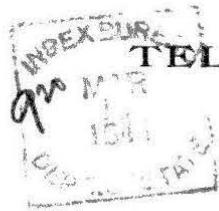
I am not prepared to credit the rumors that the Italian Government has encouraged the antagonistic sentiment in the minds of the natives which has resulted in the death of a member of the American expedition although it is possible that private individuals moved by selfish interests may have done so.

L E I S H M A N

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

0



TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

From
Pera

CIPHER

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

MARCH 18

4

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

LETTER TO M. CARROLL, MAR. 1911

March 17, 1911.

Rec'd 5 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

INDEX BY NUMBER

867m.927
33

March 17, 4 p.m.

~~Very confidential.~~ Your telegram March 16, 6 p.m.
From my telegram March 16, 2 p.m., you will see that Ottoman
officials, in which I include Halil, are more than friendly
to American expedition. They realize the unfriendly atti-
tude of Italians towards expedition. Norton is disposed to
attribute murder to Italian influence.

MAR

FILE

C A R T E R

Deciphered by

Index Bu.--No. 51.

W
867m.927
35

March 20, 1911.

Professor Mitchell Carroll.

Secretary of the Archaeological Institute of America.

The Octagon, Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence regarding the recent regrettable incident at Cyrene, the Department hastens to state, for the confidential information of yourself and of your associates of the Archaeological Institute of America, that in a telegram from Constantinople, dated Friday afternoon last, Minister Carter confirms the statements made in his previous telegram, a paraphrase of which has been furnished you, and states that the Ottoman officials, including Hallil Bey, Director of the Imperial Museum, are exceedingly friendly to the American expedition.

You are also informed that Ambassador Leishman, to whom cable instructions were sent by the Department

ment

ment on the 16th instant, replies from Rome that he is not prepared to credit rumors beyond the possibility that an antagonistic sentiment in the minds of the native Arabs may have been encouraged by private individuals from selfish and personal motives.

The Department will continue to endeavor in every proper way to cause full support and protection to be given to this American expedition at Cyrene.

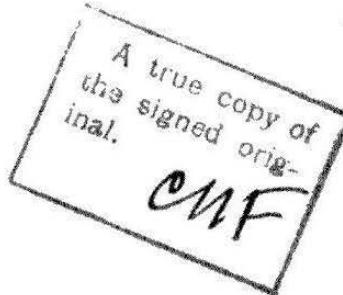
I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

867 M 927/
3 F/Ply.



TELEGRAM RECEIVED. C I P H E R.

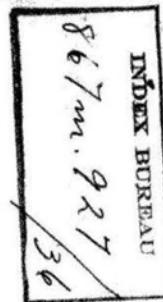
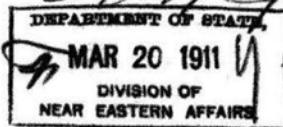
B.

3 W

From Tripoli,

Dated March 16, 1911.

Rec'd March 19, 10:10 a. m.



Secretary of State,
Washington.

File No.

March 16, 4 p. m.

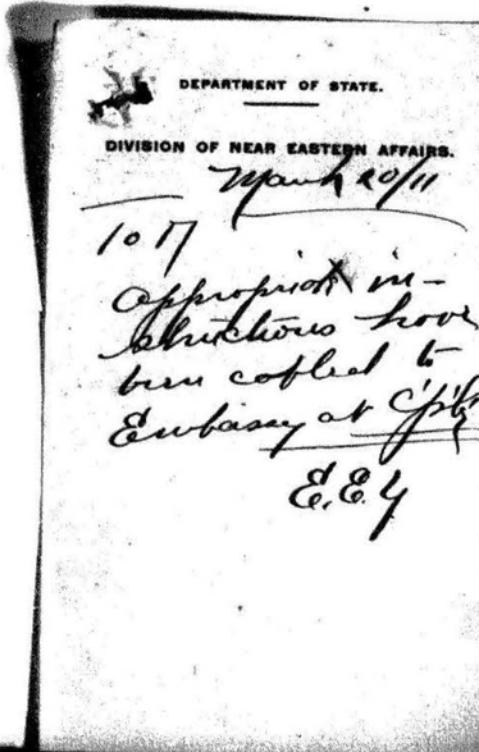
Norton telegraphs Deacon (Decon?) killed by Arabs.
Governor General adopting measures to trace murderer.

WILSON
MAR 21 1911

S A U N D E R S .

Deciphered by

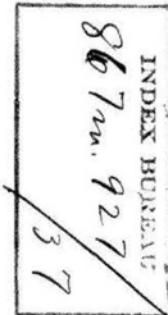
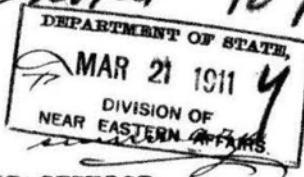
Index Bu.-No. 51.





AMERICAN CONSULAR SERVICE,

Bucksport Maine, March 18, 1911.



Subject:- Forwarding copy of report of
Richard Norton, concerning the
American Expedition at Cyrene,
in Tripolitania.

To the Honorable

C 2. MAR 24 1911

FILE,
G. E. S.

R.
26
1911

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy
of the report by Professor Richard Norton, Director
of the American Expedition, engaged in excavation
work at Cyrene, in the province of Benghazi. Said re-
port was received at the Consulate at Tripoli after
my departure on leave and was forwarded to me by
Mr. Saunders, Vice-Consul in charge.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

John L. Ward
American Consul

at Tripoli, N.A.,

on leave.

Enclosure

as above.

Cyrene.

Jan. 28, 1911.

To John Q. Wood, Esq.,

American Consulate

American Consul,

Feb. 10, 1911

Tripoli, Africa

Tripoli-in-Barbary.

Sir:

✓ Your letter of Jan. 14 reached me yesterday. The Americans in my party are H.F. DeCou, (Chicago, Ill.), J.C. Hopper, (Washington, D.C.), C.D. Curtis, (New York City), Dr. A.F. Sladden, (Evesham, England), George Morgan (London, England, one of my servants); Victor Camilleri, (Malta, interpreter); Daniele Camilleri, (Malta, -foreman). There are other native servants of various nationalities.

I am carrying out excavations on the site of the ancient Greek City Cyrene. You will find the place marked on your maps some twelve miles inland to the S.W. of Marsa Sousa which latter place is on the coast about fifty miles W. of Derna. The modern name given on the maps, to Cyrene is either Grennah or Ain Shehat. This is inaccurate as these names refer in reality, as used by the natives here that is, to special parts of the ancient site.

The local officials with whom I have to deal are the Mutessarif of Bengazi, the Kaimakan of Derna and the Mudir here. The two former are Turks, the latter an Arab. Of course the general plan of the work was arranged with officials in Constantinople, but of the affairs that arise from day to day most can be settled with the Mudir (Hadj Sawan Effendi) a very capable man who shows every readiness to help me. So far as protection goes I have been stirring the local officials up to the best of my

ability. As they did nothing I wrote our Embassy in Contple & have heard from them that they would take up the matter. When I first reached here last Oct. we had a guard of some 130 infantry & Cavalry & even these were none too many. There was one open row when soldiers & Arabs spent some minutes shooting at one another. This was brought on by the extreme idiocy of Nedjim Said, who had been sent from Bengazi to act as Commissioner. It did not worry me much because I knew it was not due to any serious ill-feeling of the Arabs against me. There was however, at that time a good deal of nervous discussion among the Arabs about us & our motives for coming here. They find it hard to believe that excavating is our real object & the Italians & their paid agents have been sedulously misrepresenting us all the last year. I have been perfectly aware of their actions & have taken steps to spike their guns. The Italian who has done most to injure us is Sig.Bernabei the Consul at Bengazi. When you have been longer in the country you will doubtless share my opinion of him. For the present I take the liberty (for I know this country pretty well) to warn you against him. Since the fight above mentioned I have had no trouble to speak of though for some time it was not uncommon to have shots taken at our house during the night. But even this slight excitement has now stopped, which adds strength to the belief I have held all along that these expressions of ill-will were organized by some individual or small clique. My suspicions fell on Hassan Effendi who was the Mudir here till about a month ago when, I believe owing to my efforts, he was removed. He was a perfect worm, & had given me trouble

on other occasions when I was here. At present I have every reason to think my personal relations with the Arabs are really as good as they seem, which is very good indeed. The guard, however, has been reduced, little by little, till now there are only about a dozen utterly worthless soldiers. The officers are with one exception very poor too. The exception is Khalid Effendi, who is unfortunately very unwell. The others are Murad who is utterly incompetent & a drunkard, & the military doctor, Sami Bey, whose occupation as a spy takes up far more time than his medical duties. As there is nothing in our work or camp that I have the slightest desire to keep secret his spying proclivities merely bore me. There is no doubt that more soldiers are needed here, not, as I wrote the Embassy, because I fear any serious outbreak by the Arabs but they are fanatical & ignorant & should they get excited we might have a very unpleasant time of it. As you doubtless know most of the soldiers have been withdrawn from this region because their time of service had expired and new troops have not yet arrived. No soldiers at all are left at Marsa Sousa & the result is that the Arabs are plundering & robbing the Cretans there without mercy. Murders are an everyday occurrence in this region so taken all in all I do not think my request for 100 soldiers to act as police & give the impression to the natives of armed law & order, is extravagant.

Up to the present any business I have had with the Mutessarrif at Bengazi has been attended to by H.B.M.Consul, J.Francis Jones, Esq. of that place and owing to his nearness to this place I shall have to continue to depend much upon him. I explain this matter that

you may not think me discourteous in not always turning to you when difficulties arise. I can assure you it is a great satisfaction to me to know that there is an officer of our Government in Tripoli where I knew your predecessor. Should Hussein Husri Pasha be in Tripoli please give him my best regards.

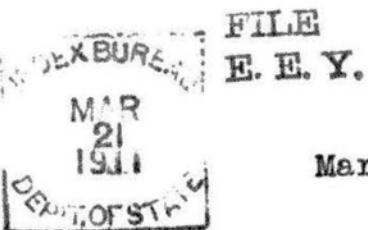
Should it be in my power to render you any service or to supply you with any information I trust you will not hesitate to let me know.

Believe me,

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Richard Norton.

F/PL



March 16, 1911.

Confidential.

Memorandum.

Mr. Allison V. Armour and Mr. Mitchell Carroll called today by appointment on behalf of the Archaeological Institute of America, and conferred with the appropriate officials of the Department regarding the recent regrettable incident at Cyrene, when Mr. De Cou, a member of the American expedition, was killed by Arabs. This matter was discussed in all its phases, thoroughly and in detail.

In support of the contention of the Institute that the Italians are hostile to the American expedition, and thus may have been instrumental in bringing about the present incident, Mr. Armour cited several facts, as follows:

During an interview with the German Emperor in Berlin last year, in discussing the Cyrene expedition the Kaiser advised Mr. Armour "to look out for the Italians."

After conversations with Rifaat Pasha, Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs, and with Hallil Bey, Director of the Museum at Constantinople, Mr. Armour felt convinced that the Italians had strenuously opposed the granting of this concession to the Americans, and that these Ottoman officials felt it was to the interests of Turkey to have the Americans work in North Africa, thus serving as somewhat

of a

INVESTIGATION BUREAU

867m. 92 7/8

MAR
21
1911
FILED

of a buffer against Italian aspirations. Mr. Armour further felt convinced that a continuation of the intrigues against the American expedition might be expected.

In the course of conversations with the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Armour gained the impression that high officials of the Italian Government suspect that ulterior motives are behind the apparently innocent American archaeological expedition. The Foreign Minister explained that he and his colleagues of the Cabinet were being interpellated frequently in Parliament regarding the motives of this American expedition, and from press reports of the Parliamentary sessions it is evident that many believe that this expedition is interested in searching for sulphur deposits in North Africa.

The Italian Consul at Derna has been hostile from the very first to the American expedition, and Italian individuals and concerns in the Benghazi Sandjak have encouraged and circulated rumors and stories calculated to arouse the enmity of the native population. An Italian merchant at Derna was agent for the American expedition, but because of flagrant and well-established tampering with mails and other infidelity to the interests of his employers, he has been dismissed from the service of the Americans and his place is now filled by a prominent and reliable Arab. This has naturally increased the hostility of the Italian element in North Africa.

Mr. Armour

Mr. Armour requested specifically:

That the Embassy at Constantinople be instructed to ascertain discreetly the present attitude of prominent Ottoman officials, such as Rifaat Pasha and Hallil Bey, to the expedition, and learn whether the Americans could rely on the support of the Ottoman Government in their desire to remain at Cyrene and continue their investigations.

That the Embassy at Rome be instructed to learn if possible what the present feeling in Italian governmental circles is towards the American expedition.

Mr. Armour added that the question as to whether or not the expedition should continue its work could be properly decided only by the party on the field, because they alone know the local conditions and sentiment. If the local situation was quiet and public sentiment there friendly, and if the Ottoman Government desired to have the expedition remain, it was his opinion that the Institute would encourage the continuation of the work of the expedition along the present lines.

However, if the presence of these Americans in North Africa is to be a source of constant irritation between the Governments of Italy and Turkey, the Archaeological Institute should consider the advisability of withdrawing from that field.

- - - - -

Mr. Armour

Mr. Armour and Mr. Carroll were informed that appropriate instructions had been cabled to the Embassy at Constantinople, and that inquiries in the sense requested would be cabled to the Embassies at Constantinople and at Rome.

E.E.Y

W

867m. 92738

March 21, 1911.

Professor Francis W. Kelsey,
President, Archaeological Institute of America,
University of Michigan,
Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Sir:

The Department acknowledges the receipt of your telegram of the 15th instant, reporting the murder of Mr. De Cou, a member of the American expedition excavating at Cyrene, North Africa, on behalf of the Archaeological Institute of America, and stating that Mr. Allison V. Armour would call at the Department in connection with this matter.

On the 16th instant, Mr. Armour and Professor Mitchell Carroll, Secretary of the Institute, called at the Department and discussed this subject carefully with the proper officials of the Department. You will doubtless be kept fully informed, through Mr.

Carroll,

Carroll, of the reports received from the American officials abroad and the action taken on behalf of this American expedition.

I am, Sir,

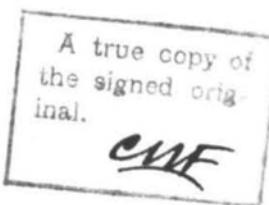
Your obedient servant,

HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

867 m. 927/32

3 F/Ply.



No. 306.

March 22, 1911.

867 M. 927
3 F/Pl

John R. Carter, Esquire,
Minister Plenipotentiary in temporary charge of
American Embassy, Constantinople.

Sir:

Referring to the recent telegraphic correspondence concerning the murder of Mr. De Cou, a member of the expedition excavating at Cyrene, North Africa, on behalf of the Archaeological Institute of America, I enclose herewith, for your confidential information and for the files of the Embassy, a copy of a memorandum of the recent visit to the Department of Mr. Armour and Mr. Carroll on behalf of this Institute. I likewise enclose copies of the Department's telegram to the Embassy at Rome, March 16th, 6 p. m., and Ambassador's Leishman's reply, March 17th, 5 p. m.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. G. LEE, NILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosures:

Memorandum, March 16, 1911;
Telegram to American Embassy, Rome,
March 16, 1911;
Telegram from same, March 17, 1911.

867 M 927/
3 F/Pl

cmt

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

VILLE

E. E. Y.

Memo.

Translation of telegram from Italian Foreign Office to its Embassy in Washington.

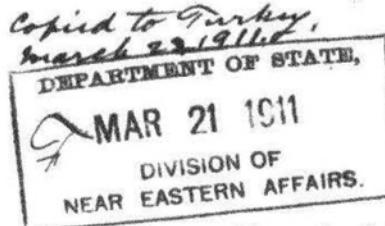
Handed, March 21, 1911,
to Mr. Huntington Wilson,
Acting Secretary of State,
by the Italian Ambassador.

C A B L E . (translation)

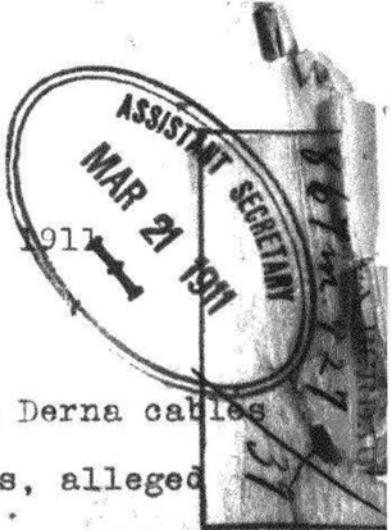
INDEX BUREAU

MAR
21
1911

DEPARTMENT OF STATE



Rome March 19, 1911



File
CWF

U.S.
Y.

Answer to your cable of the 18th. Our Vice Consul in Derna cables that American De Con was killed by two Beduin brothers, alleged owners of lands where American Mission is excavating. Said brothers having claimed an indemnity in a threatening way, were referred to the Mudir who recognized their claim to be unfounded and imprisoned them. They were released upon the intercession of the Chief of their Tribe. Hidden behind a wall near the excavations, they killed De Con with two shots and ran away taking refuge in the nearby mountains where they have not been found yet. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Said Italian Vice Consul ordered the Italian Doctor to Cirene to place himself at the disposal of the American Mission. The relations between the American Mission and the Italian Consular authorities are very cordial as these latter have received order from the Royal Government to avoid any act which might have been in the way of the American Mission, consequently the news of the allusion to which you refer to, has nothing to do with the barbarous murder. On the other side it appears that the Tribe of the Hassa was greatly excited against the Americans, claiming that they would use and damage their lands and not replace the earth on its previous conditions after the excavations.

(signed) SanGiuliano.

No. 305.

March 22, 1911.

Confidential.

John R. Carter, Esquire,

Minister Plenipotentiary in temporary charge of
American Embassy, Constantinople.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the murder of Mr. De Cou at Cyrene, you are informed that the Italian Ambassador left yesterday at the Department a translation of a telegram from the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs giving certain information which the Italian Government had received from its Vice Consul at Derna concerning this incident at Cyrene.

I enclose herewith for your very confidential information a copy of the telegram referred to above.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HUNTINGTON WILSON

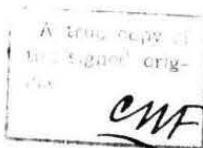
Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosure:

Telegram from Italian Foreign Office
to Italian Embassy Washington,
March 19, 1911.

867 M 927/

3 F/Ply.



TELEGRAM SENT. 3 Y/FY.



Department of State,

Washington, March 23, 1911. 5:00 pm.

Dedgy

Ambassador,

Constantinople.

Inquire (by cable) from Banque de Roma at Derna whether credit of (two thousand) pounds sterling for Norton cabled by Brown Brothers through London and Rome on March fifteenth has been received. Bankers unable to obtain acknowledgment.

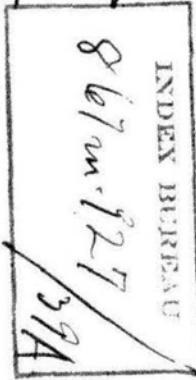
Wilson

867 m. 927/26

Enciphered by

Sent by operator 535 M. March 23, 1911. C + B

Index Bu.—No. 50.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

March 28,

Dear Mr. Acheson:

I have
approved - briefly
simply ack. re. yr
of letter as its
enclosure.

E.E.Y

Wm Young MAR 28 1971

The briefest kind of
ack.

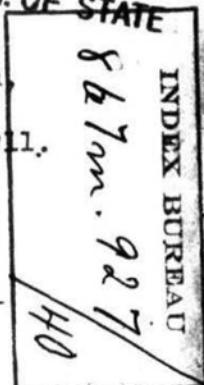
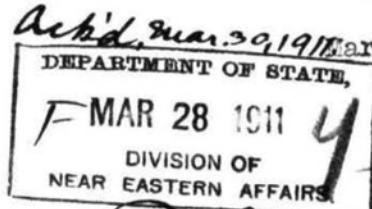
aab



3
CHIEF CLERK
MAR 27 1911
DEPT. OF STATE

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

SIR:



At the request of Mr. Allison V. Armour I beg to transmit to you a copy of L'Economista di Tripoli dated July 10, 1910. On the first leaf appears the following address label on blue paper; Sig. G. Farrugia, Derna (Cyrenaica). At the bottom of this page at the left is a greeting from this gentleman with the date and a paragraph in the first column marked in the same ink as the signature.

Having no acquaintance with this gentleman, of whom indeed I had never heard, I imagined that the paper was sent me as President of the Archaeological Institute of America perhaps in a moment of enthusiasm to indicate that the Italians also would have a Firman for excavation in the Cyrenaica. In the light of the recent tragedy it appears more probable that the paper may have been sent as a suggestion that American operations would not be conducted in the region of Cyrene without hindrance. Being in doubt what to write to Sig. Farrugia I did not write him at all, and have made no acknowledgement of the receipt of the paper.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Francis W. Kelsey

President of the
Archaeological Insti-
tute of America.

L'ECONOMISTA di TRIPOLI

INSEZIONI

Per la riacine in quarta pagina presa da corrispondenti. — Inserzioni in terza pagina, cento lire la parola, minima L. 1.

I MANOSCRITTI SONO RESTITUITI CON IL PREZZO

Bollettino Commerciale della Tripolitania e Cirenaica
In Tripoli cent. 5 - Esce la DOMENICA - Fuori Tripoli cent. 10

azione sante- sta e semi-	ope- tava l'orto e sti- ri.
------------------------------------	---

ABBONAMENTI

Tripoli. Cirenaica e Tripolitania Turchia e Italia Estero	Anno L. 100 100 100 100
--	-------------------------------------

La Turchia e le Potenze

LE FINANZE DEI VARI STATI

La situazione finanziaria in Italia

ROMA, 6 luglio. — L'on. Fasce, presidente della Giunta del bilancio, ha voluto scrivere agli stessi la relazione sull'attestamento del bilancio 1910-910, tanto più importante in quanto la situazione finanziaria è delicata, poggiando sovra cause economiche del paese, in pieno rigoglio e sovra cospicui d'entrata: ognuna crescente.

Dalla relazione lucida ed esauriente dell'on. Fasce mi limito a riportare le cifre conclusive.

L'on. Galli ha ricordato i fasti del nostro risorgimento, che noi tutti abbiamo ancora fissi nella mente e nel cuore; ma bisogna pure ricordare che noi abbiamo promesso all'Europa che il giorno in cui avremmo conquistata la libertà saremmo diventati elemento di pace. *(Vive approvazioni).*

La soddisfazione in Turchia

ROMA, 6 luglio. — A quanto la Stefani annuncia da Costantinopoli sulla sede del Sedat « l'intera nazione ottomana è rimasta soddisfatisissima per le alte e nobili dichiarazioni del marchese Di San Giuliano riguardo alla questione di Creta, pronunciate alla Camera italiana ».

COSTANTINOPOLI, 6 luglio. — Ha accolto l'Izdam con soddisfazione il discorso pronunciato dal ministro degli esteri, marchese Di San Giuliano, alla Camera italiana « di cui — dice il giornale — ciascuna parola ha una speciale importanza politica ».

Alla Camera turca

Le dichiarazioni del Gran Visir. — Richiesta del discorso di S. E. Di San Giuliano

COSTANTINOPOLI, 6 luglio. — Il Gran Visir, frequentemente interrotto da applausi, ha fatto alla Camera una lunga esposizione della situazione estera ed interna, constatando che esiste un miglioramento nella situazione politica.

« E meno di sei mesi, egli ha detto, che l'Europa si dimostrò estitante verso la Turchia. Si parlava di una confederazione balcanica contro di essa, ma le visite del Re di Bulgaria e del Serbia hanno cambiato la opinione pubblica sulla situazione balcanica. Attualmente la situazione della Turchia nei Balcani è migliorata ».

Il Gran Visir ha annunciato l'apertura di negoziati con la Bulgaria per la conclusione di una convenzione commerciale. Sono stati ugualmente aperti negoziati per la soluzione delle questioni di frontiera e per la conclusione di un trattato di coniugio turco-serbo. Tali convenzioni saranno sottoposte alla Camera durante la prossima sessione.

Il Gran Visir ha ricordato tutte le fasi della questione cretese da un anno a questa parte; ha espuso le pratiche fatte presso le quattro potenze protettive; ha dimostrato che la Turchia ha trovato un'attitudine amichevole presso le potenze, ed ha detto di credere suo dovere di ringraziarla. Una volta le simpatie delle potenze protettive per la Grecia. Da un anno esse hanno cambiato di atteggiamento e prendono misure per tutelare i diritti della Turchia.

Hakkı pascià ha aggiunto che l'attitudine della Grecia, dal punto di vista diplomatico, è perfettamente corretta, e che la effervescenza che regna contro di essa in Turchia non è dunque giustificata.

Il Gran Visir ha indicato l'addebito dell'azione attestata apertamente alla Turchia dalla Francia e dalla Inghilterra. Ha rivelato con caloreoso parole il disperso pronostico alla Camera dall'on. Di San Giuliano ed ha espresso le sue felicitazioni al ministro degli esteri italiano. L'oratore ha poi detto di credere che oggi non esiste più pericolo di una violazione dei diritti della Turchia. Questo successo è dovuto alla creazione della Costituzione ottomana.

Il Gran Visir ha indicato analizzato l'ultima nota delle quattro potenze. Egli ritiene che la partecipazione dell'Austria-Ungheria e della Germania sarebbe vantaggiosa per la Turchia, essendo i loro sentimenti ad essa favorevoli. Quindi calmarsi.

A me preme ancora di rilevare il proposito di una assunzione fatta dall'on. Galli alla Tripolitania, che proprio in questi giorni abbiamo avuto una nuova prova della simpatia della Turchia a nostro riguardo in un piccolo fatto che ha pure il suo valore, nel consenso cioè finalmente accordato, dopo venti anni d'incertezza, per compiere certi scavi archeologici nella Cirenaica.

Mi duole poi che l'on. Galli abbia pronunciato una parola molto aspra; egli ha detto che l'Italia è ancilla delle altre potenze.

Io non capisco come un uomo come l'on. Galli, e con le sue benemerenze pa-

re

Il bilancio generale

MADRID, 5 luglio. — Il ministero delle finanze ha presentato alla Camera dei deputati il progetto di bilancio per il 1911.

Le spese sono previste in 1.045.165.000 pesetas e le entrate il 1.131.408.300, sicché il bilancio si chiude con un avanzo di 85.591.184 pesetas.

Le spese presentano un aumento di pesetas 51.485.315 in confronto di quelle del 1910, di cui 1.961.616 nel Ministero dell'interno e 4.356.076 per quello dell'

struzione. Le entrate presentano un aumento di 91.000.848 pesetas in confronto di quelle del 1910, delle quali 30.257.000 per le imposte dirette, 31.100.000 per le imposte indirette e 19.350.000 per im-

pelli pubblici per im-

I debiti pubblici dell'Europa

L'Economista Europeo, esaminando la evoluzione degli Stati europei negli ultimi 30 anni, istituisce un parallelo fra i debiti pubblici, quali erano nel 1888, nel 1898 e nel 1908.

L'insieme dei debiti pubblici di tutti gli Stati europei è salito da 52.000 milioni di franchi nel 1888, a 100.933 milioni nel 1898 e a 151.429 milioni nel 1908.

A cinquant'anni di distanza si è avuto un aumento totale di 98.782 milioni, dei quali 54.383 milioni nel periodo 1888-1908 e 44.576 milioni nel periodo 1888-1908.

Queste cifre comprendono tutti i debiti dei quali i bilanci dei diversi Stati portano traccia, ossia: debiti consolidati, debiti a breve scadenza, debiti fluttuanti, ecc., ma i bilanci dei diversi Stati non sono redatti in maniera uniforme, e parecchi piccoli debiti indicati soltanto con un'annualità o il cui servizio degli interessi è confuso nel servizio globale del debito pubblico, sfuggono certamente alla statistica.

Dal punto di vista dell'importanza, il debito pubblico della Francia viene in capo nel 1908 con un capitale nominale di 30.162 milioni di franchi: seguono Francia, la Russia con 23.306 milioni; la Germania con 22.518 milioni; l'Inghilterra con 19.148 milioni; l'Austria-Ungheria con 16.168 milioni; l'Italia con 13.277 milioni; la Spagna con 9.475 milioni e via di seguito.

Da una settimana all'altra

(Per posta e per telegramma via Siracusa e Tunisi)

Il viaggio del Gran Visir

COSTANTINOPOLI, 6 luglio. — Secondo i giornali, il Gran Visir avrebbe intenzione di fare nel prossimo mese un viaggio in Europa per aver modo di interrogarsi con gli uomini di Stato europei.

I turchi e la giustizia in Francia

COSTANTINOPOLI, 6 luglio. — Il ministro delle finanze, Djavid Bey, il presidente del Consiglio di Stato e ministro dei culti, Nedjmeddin, ed il conte Ostromov sono partiti per Parigi allo scopo di studiare l'organizzazione della giustizia di Francia.

Le operazioni militari in Alania

COSTANTINOPOLI, 6 luglio. — Un dispaccio del comandante supremo delle truppe ottomane annuncia che egli continua le operazioni militari nella regione di Liium.

Il capo ribelle Musah è stato condannato a morte.

La situazione in Egitto

LONDRA, 6 luglio. — Alla Camera dei Comuni, rispondendo a varie interrogazioni, il ministro della guerra, Haldane, dice che l'esercito di occupazione in Egitto, aumentato dal 1907, è oggi sufficiente.

La brigata che è in Malta si trova a tre giorni di distanza. Altre disposizioni sono state prese per potere inviare rapidamente rinforzi nel caso che se ne presentasse la necessità.

L'Egitto e la neutralità di Cittadella

ROMA, 6 luglio. — La Tripolitania ha da Tangier:

« Le famiglie dei tre operai massacrati a Cittadella nell'agosto del 1907, hanno ottenuto dal Governo maschettone, in seguito alle pratiche fatte dal ministro Nazzarini, 300 mila franchi d'indennità.

L'impressione prodotta da questo risultato è ottima ».

La flotta dei dirigibili italiani

ROMA, 6 luglio. — Il progetto di lancio per il 1911 presentato dal ministro delle finanze, Cocherly, alla Camera raggiunge completamente il pareggio senza alcun prestito. Le entrate raggiungono la cifra di 4.257.176.318 e le spese ordinarie salgono a 4.232.351.409. Occupano però anche altri 37 milioni per la costruzione di due corazzate. Resta così un disavanzo di 12 milioni, che è coperto completamente da un aumento graduale e moderato del bilancio di quietanza.

L'eccedenza definitiva delle entrate è dunque di 155.261 franchi. Ma il progetto non comprende alcun credito per le pensioni operate, e qui dato d'applicazione non è stata ancora stabilita.

Il Governo, nella relazione che accompagna il progetto, dichiara che chiederà al Parlamento in tempo utile e abbastanza presto da poter incaderlo nel bilancio i crediti necessari all'approvazione della legge sulle pensioni operate e le entrate per farvi fronte.

Il bilancio generale

MADRID, 5 luglio. — Il ministero delle finanze ha presentato alla Camera dei deputati il progetto di bilancio per il 1911.

Le spese sono previste in 1.045.165.000 pesetas e le entrate il 1.131.408.300, sicché il bilancio si chiude con un avanzo di 85.591.184 pesetas.

Le spese presentano un aumento di pesetas 51.485.315 in confronto di quelle del 1910, di cui 1.961.616 nel Ministero dell'interno e 4.356.076 per quello dell'

Duerr, e recando a bordo 17 giornalisti tedeschi. Ma poco dopo cominciava a soffiare un fortissimo vento contrario, contro il quale la lotte si impegnava subito emotivamente e vivissima.

Il *Deutschland* passava così al disopra di Gelsenkirchen, dirigendosi verso Münster, Osnabrück, sempre avvistato dalla bufera; e poiché esso non aveva benzina che per 10 ore di viaggio, giunto ad Osnabrück il pilota ingegnere Duerr tentava di prender terra sulla piazza d'armi di questa città.

Ma ogni tentativo era vano. Anzi ad un tratto, improvvisamente il *Deutschland*, che ora a duecento metri da terra, per ragioni ancora inspiegabili guizzava in alto, vertiginosamente, portandosi a circa 1200 metri, fra dense nubi, che bagnarono l'avvolgente del dirigibile e lo appesantirono al punto che presto esso cominciò a discendere.

I passeggeri che seguivano con l'animo trepidante le vicende dell'aeronave, accortisi della sua discesa vertiginosa furono invasi da dolorosa ambascia. Impressionantissimi istanti!

Intanto il *Deutschland* era disceso a soli cento metri da terra, al di sopra della grande e storica foresta di Teutoburgo. Improvvisamente avveniva una *paura* ad uno dei motori; il dirigibile procedeva con difficoltà verso una pianura peratterare, manovrando con moto irregolare, simboli, quando la punta di un alto abete veniva sfondava il pavimento della cabina dei passeggeri.

Nessuno per fortuna restava ferito; ma il *Deutschland* restava incagliato, e poiché il vento persisteva a soffiare rabbioso, l'aeronave impigliavasi sempre più tra i rami, e sbattuta or di qua o di là, la schelétrie di alluminio veniva ridotto totalmente inservibile.

Invitato Zeppelin a recarsi sul luogo del disastro egli vi si recava all'insonte, profondamente addolorato per la sorte avversa che colpisse così crudelmente le sue grandi e magnifiche aeronavi.

Il *Deutschland* era lungo 148 metri, ne aveva 14 di diametro ed aveva la capacità di 19.000 mc. Nella naviglia di servizio prendevano posto otto persone, tra piloti, ingegneri e meccanici; in quella per passeggeri, stabilita al centro, entravano 30 viaggiatori. Aveva la forma di un elegante vagone diviso in compartimenti. Il palone aveva la velocità media di 50 chilometri di tali giri avrei.

Il voto amministrativo alle donne

ROMA, 5 luglio. — Si è adunata la Commissione che esamina la proposta di legge dell'on. Carlo Gallini per la concessione del voto amministrativo alle donne, ed ha nominato presidente l'on. Di Stefano, segretario l'on. Caetani.

Dopo un preliminare scambio di idee sulla proposta di legge, i singoli commissari hanno riassunto e illustrato gli argomenti da essi addotti negli uffici che li hanno eletti.

La tendenza prevalente è apparsa favorevole alla concessione del voto.

Alcuni hanno fatto riserve sull'articolo

Dom 18/12
10.

Salutatio
Luis. Farnezi

tanto l'Argentina, ma anche i lavoratori immigrati, che, con il sistema delle Cooperative, potranno diventare proprietari della terra che lavorano. E poiché come è nota la fiorente repubblica d'oltre Oceano vive unicamente della sua terra, è per la sua terra che s'impianteranno coltura e le cooperative agricole.

Ma la stessa legislazione agraria deve modificarsi, in quelle giovani terre, e tutte le industrie agricole debbono trovarsi nuove applicazioni. E anche di ciò si è largamente occupato il genialissimo e fedele scrittore il quale dedica, a tali industrie, la seconda parte del suo libro, che egli si è assunto di scrivere per incarico avuto a mezzo di un decreto della Repubblica. Il libro del Llanos corrisponde perfettamente allo scopo, perché i suoi studi sono stati scrupolosi e minuziosi; ma la sua penna agile sa animare la materia arida, e pur nel riferire di cose tecniche colorisce, di tratto in tratto con qualche geniale pennellata, lo sfondo delle sue pagine. E il paesaggio italiano e il paesaggio romano specialmente, sono riguardati con animo commosso ed ammirato.

Si sente lo straniero che trova, senza forse confessarlo neppure, la nostra terra più gaja e più suggestiva soffusa di una posse certa ignota alle palme infinite.

E di ciò, come di tutte le parole di simpatia per noi, che appaiono frequenti nelle sue pagine, per lo studio amoroso delle cose nostre, noi lo ringraziamo, e gli auguriamo sinceramente che la sua Repubblica sappia trarre profitto dalla genialità attiva e dalle osservazioni precise di Julio Llanos.

VITA CITTADINA

In quarantena. — In seguito a decisione del Consiglio Superiore di Sanità, a decorrere dalle partenze del 5 corrente le provenienze da Alessandria d'Egitto e da Port Said saranno soggette a 24 ore di quarantena, con disinfezione e deratizzazione.

Tutte le misure sanitarie debbono effettuarsi sia nelle stazioni di Giaffa e di Rodi.

I servizi postali marittimi. — Domani, lunedì, il piroscafo *Marco Aurelio*, dal Banco di Roma, proveniente da Malta, partirà — alle 6 pom. — in regolare servizio postale per Misurata, Bengasi, Derma, Sollum, Alessandria, iniziando, in attesa di un nuovo piroscafo la linea Tripoli, Cirenaica, Alessandria, affidata al Banco istesso.

La Società Nazionale di servizi marittimi ha iniziato l'esercizio delle linee postali con la Tripolitania.

I vapori della nuova Società, dalla cimieriera nera con stella bianca, oltre il guidone postale inalberano la bandiera sociale dai colori nazionali in diagonale con le lettere *S* sul colore verde e *N* sul rosso.

La nuova Società ha impiantato la sua Direzione generale in Roma, con Sedi complementari a Genova e a Patermo, con Sedi a Napoli e Venezia e con Agenzie in tutti gli scali nazionali ed esteri toccati dai suoi vapori.

La flotta della Società consta ora di 62 vapori acquistati dalla Navigazione Generale italiana, ma saranno date subito ordinazioni per 12 mila tonnellate di materiale nuovo, mentre altre 12 mila tonn. saranno ordinate nel primo semestre dell'anno prossimo, non appena il Governo avrà stabilito le caratteristiche delle nuove costruzioni.

Le nuove strade. — Procedono attivamente i lavori per le nuove strade. L'ingegnere capo del Vilayet Oħannès Abdoullah, che da oltre 15 giorni lavora alacremente per lo studio delle nuove strade per la Tunisia, è partito ieri verso la Tunisia, è partito ieri verso l'interno del Paese, per continuare sul posto gli studi dell'oltremare tracciato. La sorprendente intelligenza di Oħannès Abdoullah sono arra di completa riuscita degli importanti lavori la cui direzione è a lui affidata.

Cronaca rosa. — L'egregio Signor V. E. Paggi si è fidanzato con la gentilissima Signorina Esterina Hassan. Auguri sinceri.

Mercodì prossimo col tradizionale rito, si uniranno in matrimoni il Sig. Hlafel Fellah con la gentilissima Signorina Emma Fellah. Auguri di felicità.

L'anniversario della libertà. — Fervono i preparativi per i grandi festeggiamenti — dei quali abbiamo già dato a grandi linee il programma — per la ricorrenza della Costituzione ottomana, il 22 e 23 cor. Tali festeggiamenti promettono di riuscire splendidi, grazie all'attività ed iniziativa dei benemeriti componenti il comitato, posto sotto l'altro patronato di S. E. il Governatore.

La vendita dei biglietti è già iniziata da parecchi giorni con esito bellissimo; per cui consigliamo a coloro che desiderano di assicurarsi posto nelle tribune, di non perdere tempo.

Kemal Bey. — Ieri mattina giunse per telegrafico a S. E. il Governatore la nomina di Kemal Bey a direttore dell'ufficio di politica estera. La scelta nella persona di Kemal Bey non poteva esser migliore, e la sua intelligenza, attività ed acuzza di vedute sono di grande affidamento per la riforma dell'importante ufficio al quale Kemal Bey fu preposto. Vive congratulazioni.

Nuovo funzionario. — È giunto venerdì, proveniente da Costantinopoli, col piroscalo *Entella*, il Sig. Mouammer Bey nuovo interprete del Vilayet di Tripoli, in sostituzione del Sig. Kriger, trasferito ad Angora. Il nostro benvenuto.

Un reprobato. — La sera del 6 luglio, un arabo chiamato Ben Nur, acciuffato tranquillamente un amico nei paraggi di Porta Horria, quando un certo Fituri Ben Zammitt, notissimo per le sue prepotenze, di cui la stampa cittadina ebbe occasione di parlare più volte, passando per colpa d'una violenta spinta al Ben Nur, che, sputato con forza, aveva al fare, gli s'avvicinato addossandogli le spalle. Al rumore accorsero diversi giovani dalle case vicine, vittime parecchie volte dei soprusi del Zammitt, che si unirono al Ben Nur.

Al Zammitt toccò ciò che successe ai pifferi di montagna: andò per sonare e rimase sonato.

Risata. — Giorni sono al fidanzamento del signor Dodi Atutu mentre tutto procedeva allarmemente. Il signor Atutu mandava a gambe per aria un convitato per nome Berhan Grimat tirandogli sotto la sedia su cui stava per sedersi; il brutto scherzo non placque punto a Hifla ben Jaha, amico del malcapitato, che venuto a direbilo col Lauri metteva il pugnale: a lui si levavano il seruo e altri invitati. Il signor Atutu, invece di mangiare, si levava la rissa. Fu una vera baraconda, si videvano seggi e bastoni da tutte le parti, parecchi rimasero feriti; terribile il panico dei donne.

La polizia non intervenne forse perché il luogo della rissa era molto fuori di mano.

Gli anonimi. — Non teniamo alcun conto delle comunicazioni anonime.

Bollettino Meteorologico.

Media barometrica nelle ultime 24 ore: 761.1. Temperatura contingua: media 31.3 — massima 35.3 — minima 19.4.

Umidità relativa: 57.0%. Veneti dominanti: N. E. Marca nelle ultime 24 ore leggermente agitata.

ARRIVI E PARTITI

Passengeri arrivati: Avv. Cav. Dante, Mr. Milford, Avv. Ernesto Vassallo, Sign. Balairon Francesco — Eugenio Rossi, — Di Parma, — A. Martino, Economos, neozionista, da Sfax.

Passengeri partiti: Dottor Tempestini, (Hôtel Minerva).

Passengeri arrivati: Mouammer Bey e fam.

Passengeri partiti: Avv. G. Ricciardelli, — Galatario, (Hôtel Transatlantique).

Passengeri arrivati: Mr. Ashevorth, — Dr. Visher, (Gran Hôtel Universo).

Nella Rada di Tripoli

Arrivi del 3 Luglio

P. fo Igazia, cap. D. Alberti, da Napoli.

Partenze del 3 Luglio

P. fo Petoro, di tonn. 1874, della Società Nazionale, per Malta, Siracusa, Catania, Messina, Reggio, Napoli, Genova.

Arrivi del 4 Luglio

P. fo Letimbo, di tonn. 2000, della Società Nazionale, da Catania e Malta.

Partenze del 4 Luglio

P. fo Igazia, per Torre Annunziata, con carico di buoi.

Arrivi del 5 Luglio

P. fo Tofra, di tonn. 1528, della Compagnie de Navigation Mixte, da Marsiglia, Tunisi e scali della Tunisia.

Partenze del 5 Luglio

P. fo Tofra, Partenze del 5 Luglio

P. fo Igazia, per Alessandria d'Egitto, con carico di bestiame.

Arrivi del 7 Luglio

P. fo Po, di tonn. 2261, della Società Nazionale, da Genova, Napoli, Messina, Reggio, Catania, Siracusa, Malta.

Partenze del 7 Luglio

P. fo Po, per gli scali della Tunisia, Cagliari, Livorno, Genova.

Arrivi del 8 Luglio

P. fo Entella, di tonn. 2250, della Società Nazionale, da Costantinopoli, Canace, Derna, Bengasi, Misurata.

Partenze del 8 Luglio

P. fo Entella, per Malta e Catania.

Arrivi del 9 Luglio

P. fo Entella, per le scali della Tunisia e Marsiglia.

Partenze del 9 Luglio

P. fo Entella, per Malta e Catania.

NEL MONDO DEGLI AFFARI

CORSO MEDIO DEL CAMBIO

A TRIPOLI DI BARBERIA

	Comprà e vendita	Piastre	Piastre
Francia	cheque (per 20 fr.)	101.25	101...
	2 mesi	101.25	101...
Londra	cheque	1 L.	100.50
	3 mesi	100.50	100.50
Italia	cheque	20 Lit.	101.10
	3 mesi	101.10	101.30
Malta	5 giorni	1 L.	101.30
Tunisia	cheque	20 fr.	101.30
Alessandria	1 L.	101.30	101.30
Costantinopoli	30 fr.	101.30	101.30
Derna	100 Marks	101.30	101.30
Malta	20 fr.	101.30	101.30
Bengasi	—	101.30	101.30

CORSO DELLE MONETE

A TRIPOLI DI BARBERIA

	Prezzo di apertura	Prezzo di chiusura	Prezzo di chiusura
Napoli	—	101	101
Lira Turca	—	117	117
Megh	—	21.30	21.30
Lira Sterlina	—	108	108
Scudi d'argento	—	101.10	101.30
Spazzati Ottomani	—	101.10	101.30

SAGGI UFFICIALI DI SCONTO

A TRIPOLI DI BARBERIA

PREZZI DI APERTURA

BESTIAME DA MACELLO

PREZZI DI CHIUSURA

BESTIAME DA TIRODE DA SOMA

PREZZI DI CHIUSURA

POLLALME

PREZZI DI CHIUSURA

IL MERCATO DI TRIPOLI

PREZZI DI CHIUSURA

<h3

Lo Stabilimento d'Arti Grafiche in Tripoli B.ría

Mercè i continui arrivi di riforniture d'ultima creazione e d'assoluto buon gusto in carte moderne da stampa, da ufficio, da lettere, per partecipazioni ecc., come in materiale grafico, è in grado di eseguire con la solita precisione e nitidezza qualsiasi lavoro. Volanti, giornali, forniture per Amministrazione, Uffici. Specialità in registratori, lavori commerciali e a colori.

BANCO DI ROMA

Linea di Navigazione

Tripoli - Cirenaica - Alessandria

Servizi postali ogni due settimane:

Tripoli - Misurata - Bengasi - Derna - Sollum - Alessandria
Sollum - Derna - Bengasi - Malta - Tripoli

MERCI - PASSEGGI - TRASBORDI

Partenza da Tripoli il Lunedì (cominciando dall'11 corrente)

Per informazioni, biglietti, merci dirigersi alla locale Agenzia, al porto

FRANCESCO DI VITA & C.

Fabbrica Privilegiata di Ghiaccio
Acque Gassose, Soda e Seltz
Monopolio per il Vilayet di Tripoli
ESPORTAZIONE - VENDITA

Produzione del Ghiaccio puro artificiale ottenuto con acque batteriologicamente pure.
S P E C I A L I TÀ
Gassose igieniche di sciroppi ed essenze al frutto fabbricate con sostanze di prima qualità
SERVIZIO A DOMICILIO - Ai Rivenditori e Depositori, speciali ribassi e facilitazioni!

BANCO DI ROMA

Società Anonima - Capitale Lire 80.000.000 interamente versato

Sede Centrale: ROMA

Filiali in Italia - Sedi: GENOVA - NAPOLI - TORINO.

Successori: Alba (con Uffici in Canelli e Canale) - Albano Laziale - Ivrea - Bracciano - Corneto Tarquinia - Fara in Sabina - Fosano (con Ufficio a Carrù) - Frascati - Frosinone - Lucca - Bagno di Montecatini - Mondovi - Orbetallo - Orvieto - Palestro - Rena Subiaco - Tivoli - Torre Almuzza - Velletri - Viterbo.
Agenzie: Pinerolo.

Filiali all'Ester - Sedi: ALESSANDRIA D'EGITTO - BARCELLONA MALLA - PARIGI.

Successori: Cairo d'Egitto - Tarragona - Tripoli di Barberia
Agenzie: Bengasi - Derna.

Operazioni della Succursale di Tripoli e dell'Agenzia di Bengasi

Conti correnti liberi al 2.00 - Libretti a risparmio al 3.00 - Depositi vincolati al 3.12.00 - Emissione di chèque nei migliori cambi del giorno e nelle principali piazze del mondo - Conti correnti di corrispondenze creditori e debitori - Sconto e rimessone di effetti su piazze e nell'estero - Cambio di monete e valute estere - Lettere di credito su qualunque piazza e circolari - Anticipazioni, sovvenzioni e depositi contro valori o certificati di merci - Anticipazioni contro depositi di merce o oggetti di valore - Esecuzione di ordini di borsa per cassiali e a termine - Apertura di crediti per importazioni ed esportazioni - Ed in genere qualunque operazione di Banca.

Operazioni della Sezione Industriale di Tripoli

Molino a cilindri - Navigazione costiera nella Tripolitania con piroscafi propri - Pressatura ed esportazione dello sbarco - Laborazioni delle spugne - Fabbrica di ghiaccio acque gassose e seltz - Officine meccaniche - Uffici - Azienda agricola in Bengasi.

AERANA
Biesolt & Locke
Meissen (Saxe)
Macchine da cucire
a mano e pedale

Rappresentanti generali in Tripolitania e Cirenaica
G. VASSALLO PALEOLOGO & C.

FABBRICA  TRIPOLINA
di LATERIZI e CALCE
PROPRIETARI:
G. Vassallo PALEOLOGO & C.
Produzione annua:
9 MILIONI di MATTONI e 100 MILA SACCHI DI CALCE
Situata in Strada Sella Menù
Prezzi di vera corrispondenza

Fernet - Branca
amaro tonico, corroborante, digestivo
Specialità dei Fratelli Branca di Milano

I SOLO ED ESCLUSIVI PROPRIETARI DEL SEGRETARIO IN FABBRICAZIONE
Guardarsi dalle contrapposte - Esigere la bottiglia d'origine.

In Tripoli di Barberia: EUGENIO TONNA & C. Rapp. - Concessionari.

Avvisi Economici

Gent. 5 a parola, minimo Fr. 1.0

S. VICARI. — Vini genuini dell'Etna, bianco, rosso, imbottigliati, giare; prezzi familiari — Vero Legbi di palma, puro, corroborante, rinvigorente. — Tra magazzini in città, servizio a domicilio. Ordinazioni, magazzino di fronte alla Agenzia Navig. Genes. Italiana.

OCCASIONE!! — Splendido sciallo antico pizzo di Malta, in seta nera, vendesi prezzo d'occasione. — Scrivere M. B. F. posta restante. Tripoli.

FRANCOBOLLI per collezione. Acquisti, vendite, cambi, qualunque qualità e quantità. Rivolgersi A. S. G. Filatelica, Tripoli

F.lli LONGOBARDO, Tripoli. — Grande pizzeria, articoli di prima qualità, prezzi moderati.

PIPERAZINE MIDY, sovrana contro gotta, artrosi, reumatismi, renelia. — Presso le buone farmacie.

MACHINA DA CUCIRE. — Acquisterebbero d'occasione. Preferibile a pedale Singer. — Scrivere O. S., posta restante.

The GRAMOPHONE Company Ltd.
Le CAIRE - ALEXANDRIE (Egypt)

Celui qui désire avoir le Théâtre chez soi, et entendre les meilleures pièces d'opéra et opérettes chantées par les artistes les plus célèbres, n'a qu'à acheter un GRAMOPHONE - Marque Ange - fabriqué par la GRAMOPHONE COMPANY LTD.

Demandez Catalogues franco et gratis au Siège d'Alexandrie, Base Postale n. 414.



GUIDA ORARIO Internazionale

Pubblicazione bimestrale di FRANCESCO ORLANDI di ROMA
Abbonamento annuo L. 15 - Estero L. 21.
Una copia L. 3.

In Tripoli di Barberia, presso lo Stato. Arti Grafiche.

ROMA  **FEBBRAIO**
NOVEMBRE

FESTE COMMEMORATIVE DELLA PROCLAMAZIONE DEL REGNO D'ITALIA

ESPOSIZIONE INTERNAZIONALE D'ARTE - CONCORSO INTERNAZIONALE D'ARCHITETTURA - MOSTRA ETNOGRAFICA - PADIGLIONI REGIONALI - ARTE RETROSPETTIVA - ARCHEOLOGIA - ARTE MUSICALE E DRAMMATICA ANTICA E MODERNA - CONGRESSI - SPORT - FESTE POPOLARI - LUMINARIE - GARE

Società Italiana di Elettricità

THOMSON Impianti e distribuzione di energia elettrica a grandi distanze - Tramvie elettriche - Alternatori - Lampade ad Arco

- Trasformatori - Motori -

Dinamo - Materiale di controllo e di misura - Telefoni -

Parafalimi - Sonerie, ecc.

HOUSTON

ROMA - via Due Macelli

Cav. G. Mazziotti

VINI 
Vino Rossoferrante in tutte le Esposizioni
Champagnes - Moscati - Aleatici - Stravecchi per animatissimi - Spumanti, ecc., ecc.
Importazione in tutto il mondo
speciale Amaro MAZZIOTTI Speciale

Roma - BOLSENA - Roma

Prodotti Ditta CUSENIER

Fama mondiale - 8 fabbriche - Officine enologiche e di spiriti
MASIME ONORIFRENZE
Gognac - Absinthio Cusenier - Mandarino - Creme Caram. Virolata ecc., ecc.

In Tripoli di Barberia: Sig. Giacchino Galea

Ferro-China BISLERI

liquore tonico, ricostituente del sangue

NOCERA-UMBRA

"SORGETE ANGELICA"

Acqua minerale da tavola

F. BISLERI & C. - MILANO

Freschezza, igiene, bellezza,

danno le

Profumerie BERTELLI

con principali specialità, come il

Sapol e profumi VENUS

In vendita anche a bordo dei moderni Vapori, Transatlantici e veloci che solcano tutti i mari.

Società A. BERTELLI & C. - Milano

Buvez tous l'AMER PICON

Un aperitivo da qualsiasi - Se metter des Imitations

M. SAHAL Agent dépositaire

TRIPOLI DE BARBARIE

"ALLEANZA" - Genova

Capitale Sociale 15 milioni di franchi

RAMO TRASPORTI - SOCIETÀ D'ASSICURAZIONI - RAMO VITA

Rappresentante per la Tripolitania e Cirenaica:

BANCO DI ROMA

3
2

T.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

CIPHER



From Pera,

Dated March 29, 1911

Rec'd 9:16 a.m.

Letter to Prof. Carroll,

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Mar. 31, 1911.

MAR 29 1911
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

File
CWT
14/1

867 m. 927
INDEX BUREAU

Secretary of State,
Washington.

March 29, 12 noon.

Your telegram March 23, 5 p.m. A telegraphic reply
from Banca di Roma at Derna states credit mentioned re-
ceived by them twenty-seventh instant.

MAR 31 1911
FILE

C A R T E R

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

W

14/126-m298

March 31, 1911.

Professor Mitchell Carroll,

The Octagon,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the American archaeological expedition at Cyrene, North Africa, you are informed that on the 23rd instant, at the request of Mr. Armour, the Embassy at Constantinople was instructed to inquire from the Banca di Roma at Derna whether it has received a certain credit of money telegraphed through London and Rome for the use of the American expedition.

The Embassy's cable of March 29th indicates that a reply from the bank at Derna has been received stating that the credit in question was received by the bank on the 27th instant.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. G. KNOX

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

CWF

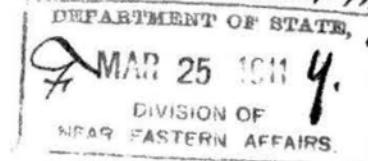
867 m.927/41
3 F/Ply.

H.C. LODGE, CHAIRMAN.

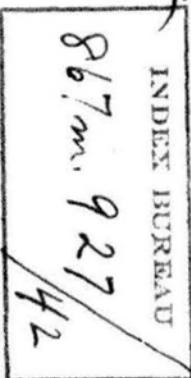
UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE PHILIPPINES



Ans'd, March 28, 1911.



March 24, 1911



My dear Sir:-

Referring to my conversation this morning with your office relative to the affair at Cyrene which is now having the attention of the Department, I beg to enclose the letter from Mr. Gardiner M. Lane containing the message from Mr. Norton of which I spoke.

Very truly yours,

E. Black
Private Secretary

MAR 28 1911
FILE

Hon. Chandler Hale,

Assistant Secretary of State.

Copy - F.

Museum of Fine Arts
Boston, Mass.

Special Delivery.

March 23, 1911.

Dear Senator Lodge:

I have received a cablegram from Mr. James Loeb, who is in Munich, reading as follows:

"Letter just received from Norton shows important need of strongest steps by Washington if further catastrophes are to be avoided. Have sent urgent wire to Carter at Constantinople."

I hope the State Department is doing everything it can to protect Americans in Cyrene, Norton, Hoppin and the others. I imagine that Mr. Armour is in Washington today and has seen the State Department because I sent him last night by telegraph a copy of the above message. I cannot reach Mr. Armour in New York today, nor can I find out where he is. I am therefore sending this message to you asking you to see that the State Department receives it if they have not already heard from Mr. Armour.

Yours faithfully,

(signed) Gardiner M. Lane.

Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge,

Senate Chamber,

Washington, D.C.

W
867m. 927
42

March 28, 1911.

The Honorable Henry Cabot Lodge,

United States Senate.

Sir:

I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 24th, enclosing a letter from Mr. Gardiner W. Lane, of Boston, in further reference to the recent regrettable incident at Cyrene, North Africa.

Your letter and its enclosure have been brought to the attention of Mr. Mitchell Carroll of this city, Secretary of the Archaeological Institute of America, with whom the Department is in constant touch regarding this subject. Mr. Carroll agreed that, in view of the instructions already sent to the Embassy at Constantinople by the Department, and as Mr. Loeb has already telegraphed to Minister Carter at Constantinople the same information which he cabled to Mr. Lane, no further action on the part of the Department seems necessary at this moment.

I return

I return herewith the letter from Mr. Lane, a copy
of which has been retained for the files of the Department.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

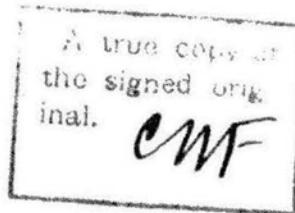
P. C. KNOX

Enclosure:

From Gardiner M. Lane to Senator Lodge,
March 23, 1911.

867 M 927/

3 F Y.





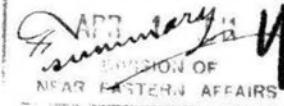
AMERICAN EMBASSY,
CONSTANTINOPLE.

No. 334.

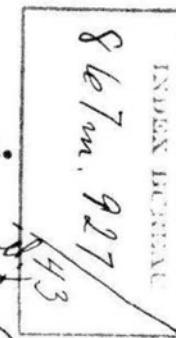
March 20, 1911.

Copied (part) to Mr. Carroll
Apr. 4, 1911, to Sen. Lodge, &
several Apr. 5, 1911.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.



Copied, Apr. 10, 1911, to
Senators Crane & Townsend.
Copied to Rome, Apr. 15, 1911.



FILE
CWT
N 6
FILE

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

S i r :

In amplification of my telegrams of the 15th, 16th,
and 17th instant, relating to the regrettable assassination
of Mr. Decou, a member of the archaeological expedition at

1/ Derna, I beg to enclose herewith a copy of a formal note from
the Minister for Foreign Affairs, dated the 19th instant.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and the other
Ottoman officials have shown the most sympathetic spirit pos-
sible in this sad occurrence, and Rifaat Pasha, who was at
Prinkipo for a few days change of air after his recent illness,
even before he had received my communication on the subject,
sent the "Chef du Cabinet Particulier" to express his sincere
regret and to inform me at the same time that the most vigor-

ous

ous measures were being taken towards the capture and punishment of the assassins. The British Ambassador was also most cordial and helpful, and has instructed his Consul to give every possible support and protection to Mr. Norton and the members of the expedition.

Mr. Norton's telegrams have assured me that the assassination had nothing to do with the local conditions, as the two Arabs, who were the assassins, were sent from elsewhere for the purpose of killing some one of the expedition, in the hope, no doubt, that by so doing the others would become intimidated and give up the excavations. This is what the Italians have been working for. The latter, considering Tripoli as their exclusive happy hunting ground, deprecate the presence of any foreigners there as interfering with what they consider more or less as their vested rights. They have lately been alarmed at the report that an American combination was seeking a concession to work the sulphur mines in Tripoli; and, indeed, the Italian Ambassador came to me and asked whether any such concession had been granted to Americans, as, in that case, his people would like to come to some arrangement with ours. I was able to inform him that, as far as this Embassy was concerned, no concession had been asked for; and there the matter dropped. But the rumor that an American syndicate had obtained a concession still continued to be talked about in the Italian press, and the question even came up in the Italian Parliament. The local Italians at Benghazi profess to believe that this scientific expedition was but a blind and that its object was commercial. They have by every possible means tried to rouse the animosity of the local Arabs against the expedi-

tion,

Amirk

tion, and to this may be attributed most of the difficulties which have been encountered.) Mr. Norton, (^{however,}) has managed very well and has succeeded in establishing the most friendly relations with the local authorities and with the Arabs themselves.

At one time there was some misunderstanding between Mr. Norton and Halil Bey, arising out of the question of the amount to be paid to the commissaire. Mr. Norton delayed in sending the money to Constantinople for the journey of this official, which caused Halil some trouble and annoyance. However, in our various interviews with Halil, we succeeded in coming to a thorough understanding with him; and since that time, now two months ago, the attitude of Halil has been most cordial and friendly, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Government even more so. Indeed, in an interview I had with Rifaat Pasha some weeks ago for the purpose of pointing out to him that Mr. Norton should have a stronger military protection, he *suggested* volunteered to say that apart from the excavations the Government were more than glad to have Mr. Norton and the expedition there for political and other reasons of their own, that they would give him as many soldiers as he needed, and that, if I would telegraph to Mr. Norton and ask him the minimum of what would be necessary, they would be sent at once. I subsequently telegraphed to Mr. Norton who mentioned 100 soldiers as being desirable, but later this was reduced to 50 in addition to those he already had, a number decided upon as satisfactory on the advice of Mr. Armour, a friend of Mr. Norton's, who was in Constantinople at the time, having just returned from Derna.

You will

You will see therefore that the Turkish Government regret as much as we do this unfortunate event, and fully realize its cause and origin.)

I have just received a telegram from Mr. Norton in which he states that the excavations are going on well, and that he is assured that the officials are doing every thing to avoid any further molestation.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. Carter

Enclosure: Rifaat Pasha to Mr. Carter, No. 6318/20, March 19, 1911.

Translation of Enclosure to Despatch No. 334.

Sublime Porte
Ministry for Foreign Affairs
No. Gl. 6318
No. Sl. 20

March 19, 1911.

Mr. Minister:

In reply to the notes verbales which Your Excellency has been good enough to address me on the 15th and 16th instant, No. 217 and 219, I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that the Ministry of the Interior, immediately upon receipt of the first news of the crime of which Mr. Dickson has been the victim, committed in the vicinity of Aine-Chahat (Derna), and which was at once communicated by the Local Authorities, had given them orders to take all the necessary measures for the arrest and trial of the guilty persons.

Pesides, the said Authorities have subsequently informed us that the judicial officials and the police forces required have already been sent to the place.

Your Excellency may be certain that the Imperial Government, which has learned with regret of the loss of this learned American, will rigorously pursue the investigation of this affair.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my high consideration.

(Signed) Rifaat.

His Excellency

Mr. Carter,
Minister of the United States,
etc. etc. etc.

COPY.

Sublime Porte

Ministère des Affaires Etrangères

No. G1.6318

No. S1.20

March 19, 1911.

Monsieur le Ministre,

En réponse aux notes verbales qu'elle a bien voulu m'adresser les 15 et 16 courant, Nos. 217 et 219, j'ai l'honneur d'informer Votre Excellence que le Ministère de l'Intérieur, dès la première nouvelle, aussitôt communiquée par les Autorités locales, du crime dont a été victime Monsieur Dickson, aux environs d'Ainel-Chahat, (Derna) leur avait donné l'ordre de prendre toutes les mesures nécessaires pour l'arrestation et le jugement des coupables.

D'ailleurs, lesdites Autorités nous ont informé ultérieurement que les fonctionnaires judiciaires et les forces de police requises ont été déjà envoyés sur les lieux.

Votre Excellence peut être certaine que le Gouvernement Impérial, qui a appris avec regret la perte de ce savant américain, fera poursuivre rigoureusement l'instruction de cette affaire.

Je saisiss cette occasion pour renouveler à Votre Excellence les assurances de ma haute considération.

(Signé) Hifaat.

Son Excellence

Monsieur Carter,

Ministre des Etats-Unis d'Amérique,

etc. etc. etc.

April 4, 1911.

Professor Mitchell Carroll,
General Secretary,
Archaeological Institute of America,
The Octagon, Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the recent murder of Mr. De Cou, a member of the expedition excavating at Cyrene, North Africa, on behalf of the Archaeological Institute of America, I enclose herewith, for the information of yourself and your associates of the Institute, a copy of a despatch from the Embassy at Constantinople, dated March 20th, reporting the action taken by the Embassy in this matter and enclosing a copy of the note addressed to the Embassy by the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I am, Sir,

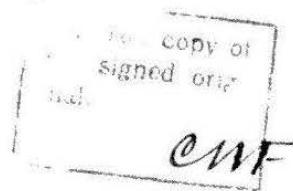
Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

Enclosure:

From Constantinople, March 20,
with sub-enclosure.

867m.927/43 3 Fy.



April 5, 1911.

The Honorable Henry Cabot Lodge,
United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the recent regrettable incident at Cyrene, North Africa, when Mr. De Cou, of the American Archaeological Expedition, was slain by Arab tribesmen, I have the honor to enclose herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch from the Embassy at Constantinople, dated March 20th, indicating the action taken by the Embassy and the attitude of the Ottoman authorities toward this incident.

867m.92/45

The Department is in constant touch with the Embassy regarding this matter, and every proper step will be taken to secure the punishment of the guilty parties

parties and the full protection of American interests
at Cyrene.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

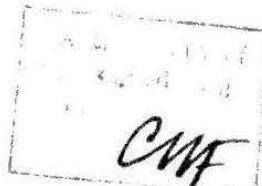
P. C. KNOX

Enclosures:

From American Embassy, Constantinople,
March 20, 1911,
with enclosure.

867 m 927/34

3 P/Pl *y.*



3 W

Cyrene, via Derna, province of Tripoli, North Africa.

INDEX BUREAU

APR

3

1911

File
CIAF

March 11th, 1911.

To the Hon. P. O. Knobell,

SECRETARY OF STATE

Secretary of State, Washington, D.C.

To file Apr. 5, 1911.
Ans'd. Apr. 10, 1911.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

APR 3 1911
H. R. STURGEON
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

INDEX BUREAU
861927
H.H.

Sir: This morning I sent a messenger with a telegram to you which will I trust reach Derna, the nearest telegraph station, late tonight and be despatched at once. This message reads: "Secstate Washington, DeGou one of party sent by Archaeological Institute of America to Cyrene killed March eleventh by Arabs sent for purpose. Local report says they were sent directly or indirectly ~~xxxxxx~~ by Italians. Signed Richard Norton." You have already been informed at the Department about our work here by the Consul in Tripoli and Professor Mitchell Carroll, Secretary of the Archaeological Institute of America, who lives in Washington can give any further details you require. So also can the acting Ambassador in Constantinople with whom I have been in frequent communication.

Mr. DeGou was on his way just after the morning roll-call to the excavations, which are half a mile from the camp, when he was shot by three Arabs. Some of the workmen saw these men and two of them are known. They are outsiders, and had been seen about here during the last two or three days. They belong to the Alt Arifa and the Alt Shemli, two clans who live near Tokra a town between here and Benghazi. The Mudir here and the Captain of our guard are acting very inefficiently. The guard consists of only fifty men; many less than we had earlier in the year, less than I have repeatedly asked the Turkish authorities to send and less than they recently promised our Ambassador in Constantinople that they would send. There is not a trace of any local ill-feeling against us but the causes of the murder can be

JUL 26 1911
FILED

suggested. Ever since the trade to excavate here was granted us a year ago the Italians have been very jealous. During a trip I made in the country ~~made~~ last summer I found they were spreading every sort of false report about us and the Italian Consul at Bengnazi tried to buy the land here which the trade gave us the right to excavate. When I returned with the party last October I found the Italian reports were widespread and had aroused a great deal of suspicion about us among the Arabs. This suspicion gradually passed and we are now on excellent terms with them.

Today the general report among the Arabs here is that the murder was instigated by the Italians. While I cannot yet prove this to be true I am well acquainted with ~~the~~ the untamed Arabs of this region and know how easily they can be influenced. It is to be noted that an Italian archaeological party has lately settled in Bengnazi with the intention, ~~I~~haar, of excavating Tokra and that the murderers came from Tokra. Furthermore the Mudir told me a few days ago that he was looking into a rumour he had heard that the four chief Sheikhs here (Bounaghas, Boumiriam, Bouhain and Bougieda) had been told by an outside Sheikh that it would be to the advantage of them all if we were forced to leave. But as I have said above there is not the slightest reason to think anyone of this locality had a hand in the murder. Tomorrow there will be a council of the Sheikhs and I may have further details to give you.

I trust, Sir, I am not asking too much in requesting you to instruct our Ambassador in Constantinople to convince the Turkish authorities that this matter must be sifted to the bottom. I have not the slightest intention of giving up the work here. It is not the time to do that but it is the time to make the Turkish authorities put their full services at our disposition for the prosecution of our work, to chastise the tribe to which the murderers belong so they will never forget

it and to bring what penalties we can on the ~~inhabitators~~^{instigators} of the crime.

Mr. DeGou's family consists of a mother and brother who live at 843 North State St. Chicago. They are in very poor circumstances, and ~~in~~ the matter of indemnity rests with you and the Archaeological Institute of America. Herbert F. DeGou was a martyr to science in the truest sense of the words.

Believe me, Sir,

Respectfully yours,

Richard Norton
Director of the Lyrene Excavation.

No. 321.

April 5, 1911.

John R. Carter, Esquire,

Minister Plenipotentiary in temporary charge of
American Embassy, Constantinople.

Sir:

I acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 334, of the 20th ultimo, in reference to the recent murder of Mr. De Cou, a member of the American archaeological expedition at Cyrene, North Africa. Your comments regarding various phases of this question have been read with interest, and due note has been taken of the position and action of the Ottoman officials in this matter.

H.H./L 286 rev. 98

Copies of a portion of your despatch and of its enclosure have been forwarded to Mr. Mitchell Carroll, of this city, General Secretary of the Archaeological Institute of America, and to the Honorable Henry Cabot Lodge, of the United States Senate.

In this connection I enclose herewith, for your information and for the files of the Embassy, a copy of a letter from Mr. Richard Norton, dated March 11th, reporting concerning this murder and the situation in the Cyrene district. The Department feels assured
that

that the Embassy will continue to press for a thorough investigation of the circumstances connected with this regrettable incident, and for the proper punishment of the guilty parties.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

Enclosure:

From Richard Norton,
March 11, 1911.

867 m. 927/34

3 F/Ply.

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

cwf

867m. 927
h/44

April 10, 1911.

Mr. Richard Norton,
Cyrene, via Derna,
Tripoli-in-Barbary,
North Africa.

Sir:

The Department has received your letter of March 11th, confirming your telegram in which you reported the murder of Mr. De Cou of your party, and giving certain details regarding the incident and your opinion as to the probable influences which contributed to this occurrence.

The Department has instructed the Embassy at Constantinople to press firmly for a careful investigation of the circumstances connected with this crime, and for the adequate punishment of the guilty parties.

The Department is in frequent communication with Professor Mitchell Carroll of this city, General Secretary of the Archaeological Institute, and will continue to accord to this matter its very careful attention.

It is

It is suggested that you keep the Embassy at
Constantinople fully informed in regard to conditions
at Cyrene, in order that it may be in a position
promptly to take such action from time to time as may
seem appropriate and necessary.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

857 m. 927/44

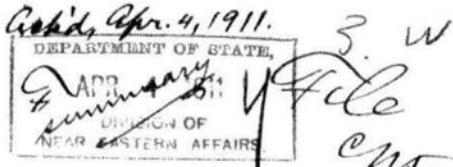
3 7/214 L

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

CW



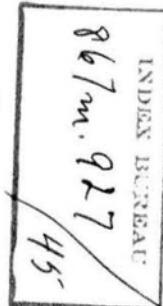
No. 27.



AMERICAN CONSULATE,

Tripoli-in-Barbary, N. Africa, March 16, 1911.

SUBJECT: REPORTED MURDER OF A MEMBER OF THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITION AT CYRENAICA.



THE HONORABLE

Mr. [unclear]

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to report receipt of the following telegram from the American Excavation Expedition at Dernah, which arrived by post from Malta today;

"Derna 3/12/11, 1.0 pm. 24 words.

"American Consul.
Tripoli-Barbary.

"Deacon (?Deacon) of my party killed March eleventh
"by Arabs sent here from outside, local report
"says murder due to Italians.

Norton".

This Consulate having no jurisdiction over Dernah or the Sandjak of Benghazi, it was only possible to interview the Governor-General here in a non-official and friendly capacity respecting this calamity.

This I did immediately upon receiving Mr Norton's message. His Excellency expressed sincere regret, and assured me that orders would at once be given to the Mufti of Benghazi to use his utmost endeavors to

trace

trace the murderers. Meanwhile he is awaiting a full report from the Military Commandant at Benghazi respecting this affair.

As an instance of the solicitude of the Authorities towards the Americans at Cyrene, the Vali informed me that in consequence of complaints lately received of stone-throwing and other minor, but unfriendly acts by the natives towards the members of the Expedition, the military officer commanding at Dernah had been replaced.

Deeming it likely to complicate matters unnecessarily, and knowing of the somewhat strained relations existing locally between the Authorities and the Italians, I did not communicate to the Vali the latter part of the telegram from Dernah.

I have today replied by wire to Mr Norton
as follows:-

" Norten Dernah.
" Geverner adepting measures trace murderer,
" keep me informed.
Saunders ".

A copy of this despatch has been forwarded to the Embassy.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant.

A. E. Saunders.
Vice and Deputy Consul in Charge.

ENCLOSURES.

Copy of cablegram to the Department.
Copy of cablegram to the Embassy.

A M E R I C A N C O N S U L A T E.

Tripoli-in-Barbary, N. Africa, March 16, 1911.

CONFIRMATION
COPY OF CABLEGRAM TO THE DEPARTMENT.

Tripoli-Africa. 3/16/11. 4.0 pm.

15 words.

"SECSTATE.
WASHINGTON.

" DAKFY NORTON 52744 DEACON 37427 19071
" 14232 STOP 32066 39299 53626 40494.

"SAUNDERS".

A M E R I C A N C O N S U L A T E.

Tripoli-in-Barbary, N. Africa, March 16, 1911.

CONFIRMATION
COPY OF CABLEGRAM TO THE EMBASSY.

Tripoli-Africa. 3/16/11. 4.0 pm.

15 words.

"AMEMBASSY.
CONSTANTINOPLE.

" NORTON DERNA 52415 DEACON 37098 18742 13903
" STOP 31737 38970 53297 40165.

"SAUNDERS".

3

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

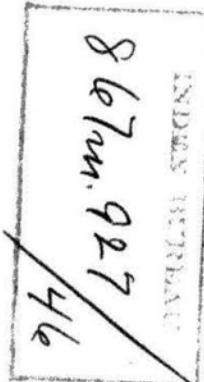
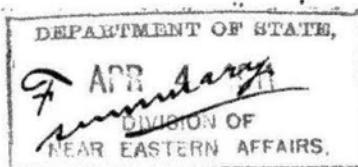
CIPHER

3 w



From Tripoli,

Dated April 2 1911,
Rec'd April 3 1911, 3:00 P. M.



Cable to C.P.C.
April 4, 4 p.m.

File

CWF

Secretary of State,
Washington

April 2, 1 p.m.

Norton has failed to secure arrest of murderer.
Authorities of the country dilatory. Considers it to be
of the greatest necessity to shew force. I have to suggest
war vessel visits coast demonstration as soon as possible,
calling in the first place Tripoli my details.

SAUNDERS

Deciphered by

April 6, 1911.

867 m 927
24/6

Professor Francis W. Kelsey,

President, Archaeological Institute of America,

Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Sir:

The Department has received your telegram of the 3rd instant, and also your letter of the same date, in further reference to the murder of Mr. De Cou at Cyrene and the subsequent situation in that region. You enclose copies of letters from Mr. Lane, of Boston, and from Mr. Norton at Cyrene, regarding this matter.

In reply, you are informed that a cable instruction was sent by the Department on the 4th instant reporting the information conveyed by you.

You are doubtless being kept informed of the developments at Cyrene and the action taken by the

Department

Department and the Embassy, through Professor Mitchell Carroll, General Secretary of the Archaeological Institute of America, with whom the Department is in ~~frequent~~ ~~constant~~ communication.

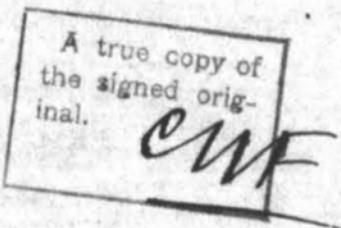
I am, Sir.

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

867 m. 927/48

3 P/Pl. y.



D

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

PLAIN

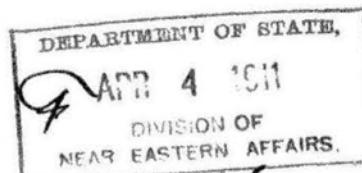
31



From Ann Arbor, Michigan,

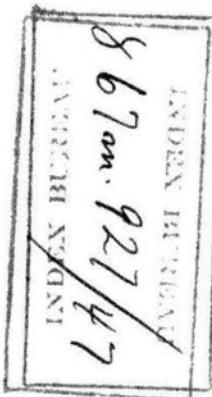
Dated April 3 1911,

Rec'd 6:45 P.M.



To cable Apr. 4, &
and Apr. 4 1911.

File
CWT



Honorable P. C. Knox,
Secretary of State,
Washington.

Following is substance of cablegram received by
Gardiner M. Lane

M.
P.
L.

"Derna, March thirtieth.

Necessary State Department act vigorously. Great
mistake suspend excavations. Have just bought garden
Norton"

Letter follows.

FRANCIS W. KELSEY

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

TELEGRAM SENT. 3 Y/F L

Department of State,



Washington, April 4, 1911. 4:00 p.m.

Toffy

Amembassy,

Constantinople.

Vice Consul at Tripoli cables that Norton has failed to secure arrest of murderers, authorities of the country are dilatory, and he considers it to be of the greatest necessity to act vigorously. Norton cables vigorous action necessary.

Very

LH/LC6-mh98

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

Index No. 50.

D
4:00 p.m. Apr 4, 1911, OXF P



The Honorable P. C. Knox,
Secretary of State.



SIR:

I have sent you today the following telegram:

"Following is substance of cablegram received by
Gardiner M. Lane: Derna, March thirtieth. Necessary
State Department act vigorously. Great mistake sus-
pend excavations. Have just bought garden. Norton.
Letter follows."

In confirmation I enclose a copy of a letter
from Mr. Gardiner M. Lane, of Boston, dated March 31.

I enclose a copy of a letter from Richard Nor-
ton, dated Cyrene, March 12, and containing details of
the murder of Herbert F. DeCou by Arabs, March 11.

I ask your immediate and earnest consideration
of the three requests which Mr. Norton makes.

It is probably already clear to you from the course which Mr. Norton has taken, and from his letters, that he is a man of courage, tact and force, whose judgment may be considered of weight.

Yours respectfully,

Daniel W. Kelsey

President of the Archaeological

Institute of America.

3 AM.

C O P Y.

44, State Street, Boston,

March 31, 1911.

Dear Professor Kelsey:

Enclosed I send you copy of a cable I have received from Mr. Norton in answer to one I sent him some time ago, conveying to him our sympathy and best wishes, and asking him if there was anything we could do to help him. My cable was sent on March 15th.

The day before Mr. Armour sailed he came to see me at my office in New York and told me all that the State Department had done up to that time. He seemed to feel that the State Department would act vigorously and that everything possible was then being done. I suggest that the enclosed cable be sent to the State Department, or at least that part of it referring to the need of vigorous action.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) G. M. LANE

Professor Francis W. Kelsey,

University of Michigan,

Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Enclosure.



JUL 29 1911
FILED

- C o p y -

Derna, March 30, 1911.

LANE

44 STATE STREET

BOSTON

THANKS ALL, NECESSARY STATE DEPARTMENT ACT VIGOROUSLY. GREAT MISTAKE
SUSPEND EXCAVATIONS. HAVE JUST BOUGHT GARDEN.

NORTON

C O P Y

Cyrene, March 12th, 1911.

To the President of the Archaeological Institute of America:

Dear Professor Kelsey:

My telegram sent from here yesterday has, long ere you receive this, told you of the horrible tragedy which occurred yesterday morning. I telegraphed also to all officials concerned and have written the Ambassador in Constantinople, the Secretary of State, Armour and Fairbanks. I can do little more now than repeat to you what I have written them. Everything has been going excellently with the work and the night before his death (only forty-eight hours but it seems forty-eight years ago) DeCou and I were agreeing that the worst of our troubles were over and that the local Arabs at last realised that our presence here was rather beneficial than otherwise to them. For some nights past I have been up most of the night with Dr. Sladden who was seriously ill with fever. So night before last I said to DeCou I would sleep late the following morning and not try to go up to the work with him. We talked over some details of the work and parted, thank God, with expressions of the mutual happiness we felt in working together. Next morning Curtis waked me at eight saying he had heard shots a few minutes previously in the direction of the Acropolis and that one of the overseers had just returned saying DeCou had been shot at. Accompanied by Hoppin, who had stayed behind DeCou to see to the donkeys, I hurried off arriving at the spot where the tragedy took place about fifteen minutes after its occurrence to find my true, upright, and dearly loved friend dead. He had, after the roll-call, strolled slowly off, as was his habit, the workmen straggling along after him, and had reached a spot about half way up the hill when he was shot and instantly killed by three Arabs who were hidden behind the ruins of

a modern house. He died a martyr to the higher things he had loved. Our hearts were heavier far than the load we bore back to camp. The Mudir, Hadj Sacuan, and the Captain of the guard, Adhem Effendi, did all they could to help. Hoppin and I chose a site for the grave on the rising ground close behind our camp and this afternoon he was carried there by the soldiers, his coffin covered by the flag. I read the Burial Service for him and we left him there looking out over the field of his work and on over the western sea towards his country which he had so truly served.

Fortunately the murderers were seen and two of them recognised as outsiders. The Council of Sheikhs was called together today and I have talked with them. By their most holy oaths they swear they are outraged at the deed, and that it was done by outsiders belonging to the Alt-Shelmi and the Ait-Arifa, clans which live near Tokra. And they say the murderers are shepherds in Italian employ and were instigated by Italians. I told them that to me their oaths were not what I wanted, that one of them at least had once before sworn by his God he had done something I had asked but that he had foresworn himself and had admitted to me that he had lied. I said that prophets were many but, as the Sheikhs themselves know, there was but one Truth, and that if they wished to escape the penalty that would surely fall upon them before many days had passed they must show by actions that they were not only innocent but also were ready to help bring the murderers to justice. There the matter rests tonight though the Mudir reports various small bits of progress in filling out details of the crime. I think tomorrow I may be able to write you these with sufficient clearness to make them intelligible. Even to me, here on the spot and knowing the Arabs, and the conditions, the connection and sequence of all the smaller facts we are learning is not quite clear.

I wrote Secretary of State Knox last night giving the mere facts of the case. My own impression of what our future conduct should be is this. The whole staff agree with me that there is no reason to give up the work, nor do the local officials desire us to do so. The Institute would stultify itself were it to call the work off or to allow the Turkish Government under any excuse to delay it. He who are here wish to show the Italians that we cannot be scared away and we feel we are justified in asking the Institute to see to it that the Turkish Government gives us their fullest and most ungrudging support. DeCau and I had often talked over the risks we ran and he has more than once expressed to me the hope that were any such tragedy as has happened to occur, the Institute would show the world that it is made of men who have strength of mind enough to demand and obtain justice for those who serve them. Three things ought to be done at once. A large force of troops should be thrown into this region to police it and our camp. Fire and sword should be given to the clan which turns out to be to blame. If the Institute thinks this demand of mine is brutal I can only reply that I know the Arab better than most of them and the hanging of the murderers alone would produce little or no impression nor be sufficient retribution because such a crime in this country is not due to the evil of individuals but of groups. Lastly an indemnity, to be collected from this country, should be required from the Turkish Government. Should that Government say this country is too poor to pay I can tell you where the money can be found. I fear we shall be unable to hang any of the Italians but they too can be made to suffer if you are in earnest. The first man to be publicly disgraced should be Bernabei the Italian Consul at Benghazi. I have written Fairbanks and Armour evidence enough to prove that he has constantly tried to thwart us and that Italian influence has been repeatedly used

against us. Furthermore what the Sheikhs told me today of the murderers coming from Tokra is to be kept clearly in mind for this is the town which the Italian archaeological party, lately settled at Benghazi, is reported to be desirous of excavating.

I will write no more tonight for as you can imagine my time is over-fully occupied, but shall keep you informed of the progress we make. Hoppin joins me in kind regards. Will you please let me know if the letter I have written Mrs. DeCou reaches her. In it I have tried to express, what I hope I may some day do more adequately, the deep love for his integrity, the admiration for his chivalry and the respect for his learning that I bore DeCou. May the work I have the honour to do here be worthy of him and of Hoppin and Curtis who have supported me magnificently.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) RICHARD NORTON.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

To file, Apr. 6, 1911,
also send.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

F APR 4 1911

DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

DEX-BUREAU

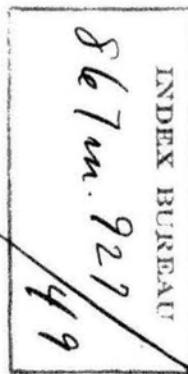
APR
7
1911

DEPT. OF STATE

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

File copy

The Honorable
 The Secretary of State,
 Washington, D. C.



My dear Sir:

I venture to send you for the files of the State Department a letter concerning the murder of Mr. Herbert Fletcher DeCou, a member of the American Expedition engaged in excavations at Cyrene, in North Africa. This letter was written by Director Norton, the head of the expedition, on the day of the murder to Director Arthur Fairbanks of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, who is one of the Commissioners having supervision of the excavations.

With great respect, I remain,

Very truly yours,

Mitchell Carroll

(Enclosure)

Cyrene, March 11, 1911.

Dear Fairbanks:

At noon today I sent you a telegram which I trust will be despatched from Derna before tomorrow morning telling you of the murder of DeCou. I have also cabled the Embassy in Constantinople, Kelsey, Amour, the State Dept. and Jones the British Consul in Benghazi. The facts are as follows. Dr. Sladden has been seriously ill with fever the past few days and for two nights I have sat up with him. Last evening before DeCou went to bed I said to him that as I should be up most of the night I would not go on the hill this morning but would sleep late. We talked over the work to be done and everything seemed to be absolutely right. At about eight this morning Curtis waked me saying he had heard shots in the direction of the hill and that one of the overseers had come back to say that DeCou had been shot at. Hoppin and I were on the spot in a few minutes and found DeCou half way up the Acropolis having been shot and instantly killed by Arabs hidden among some walls that are there.

The course of events was apparently this. The roll-call went off as usual this morning and DeCou, as he always did, strolled slowly off to the work, the workmen straggling along after him. I have repeatedly asked the authorities here to have the soldiers who act as police at the work go there before we start but this has never been done. They were usually half an hour late. Some of our workmen were near DeCou when he was shot and saw the three men who did it. The Mudir and the Captain of our guard are acting very efficiently and tell me it is known that these three men came here three days ago. The names of two of them are known and also that they belong to a tribe living near Tokra. The insistent local report here is that they were instigated by the Italians. You know what the Italians have already done, but note well that their archaeological party had recently returned to Benghazi with the intention of excavating Tokra, the town whence the murderers come. Furthermore the Mudir told me a short time ago that he was looking into a report which had come to him that the four big Sheikhs here (Bounaghlas Boumiriam, Boulhain and Bougleida) had been approached

by another Sheikh and told that it would be to their advantage if something happened to force us out of the country. As I have written the Ambassador at Constantinople if the Italians use low agents and do underhand work they must be held responsible for such ugly and tragic occurrences as DeGou's death.

The Mudir tells me he has summoned the Mashalkh (the council of the Sheikhs here) who will come tomorrow morning. We will then, I have little doubt, know all that need be known for the arrest of the murderers. This once done I have no doubt we shall learn who hired them.

There is absolutely no local disturbance so I shall continue the work as before. This is not the moment to withdraw nor need I impress upon you the necessity of making the Turkish Government sift this matter to the bottom. Hoppin, and all the others agree with me that the work must be continued. No one was ever more fortunate than I in the character of his assistants.

We shall bury DeGou tomorrow. He knew the risks he ran here and was untroubled by them. I cannot write more about him now. His death has cut my heart too deep. He was loved and respected by all of us, and the whole staff are staggered by the blow.

I shall keep you informed of all progress in the investigation. I am certain the tragedy is due to outside influence and that local conditions are perfectly sound.

With best regards,

As ever sincerely yours,

(signed) Richard Norton.

No. 323.

April 6, 1911.

W

867 m. 927
671 / 6 m/927

John R. Carter, Esquire,

Minister Plenipotentiary in temporary charge of
American Embassy, Constantinople.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning
the murder of Mr. De Cou at Cyrene, I enclose here-
with, for your information and for the files of the
Embassy, a copy of a letter from Mr. Carroll, General
Secretary of the Archaeological Institute of America,
together with a copy of a letter from Mr. Richard
Norton, at Cyrene, to Mr. Fairbanks, of Boston, one
of the Commissioners of the Cyrene expedition.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

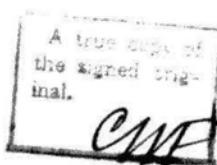
P. C. KNOX

Enclosures:

From Mitchell Carroll,
April 4, 1911,
with enclosure.

867 M 927/

3 F/P14.



W

April 6, 1911.

Professor Mitchell Carroll, General Secretary,
Archaeological Institute of America,
The Octagon, Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, enclosing a copy of a letter from Mr. Richard Norton, Director of the expedition at Cyrene, concerning the murder of Mr. De Cou on March 11th.

Copies of your letter and of its enclosure have been transmitted to the Embassy at Constantinople for its information.

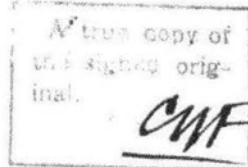
I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

867 M 927/

3 F/Ply.

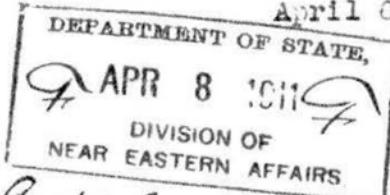


3 W



Ann Arbor, Michigan,

April 6, 1911.



The Honorable P. C. Knox:

Secretary of State.

Ans'd. Apr. 14, 1911.

SIR:

I have today received in a letter from Chicago a clipping from the Record Herald of that city of which I enclose a copy. This apparently explains the language of the cablegram from Richard Norton dated March 30 a copy of which I transmitted to you.

It is our expectation that the Government of the United States will accept no pretext of delay but will uncompromisingly insist that proper reparation shall immediately be made for the assassination of Mr. DeGou.

FILED
JUL 29 1911

Respectfully yours,

Francis W. Kelsey

President of the Archaeological
Institute of America.

MEMORANDUM.

Following is a clipping from the Record-Herald, of Chicago,
received by F. W. Kelsey at Ann Arbor, Michigan in a letter from
Chicago, dated April 8, 1911.

AMERICAN'S SLAINERS AT LARGE

Arabs Who Killed Archaeologist

Evade Arrest--More Fear Felt.

CONTRIBUTOR, April 4.-In spite of
the porte's explicit orders the two Arabs
who killed Herbert E. Dogon, the American
archaeologist, at Cyrene, northern Africa,
on March 11, have not yet been arrested.

The local authorities fear trouble with the
tribe with which the assassins took refuge.

An additional guard, however, has been
supplied for the protection of Richard Nor-
ton, director of the American Archaeological
Mission at Cyrene, and his companions, who
are continuing their work of excavation.

W

867 m. 927

4-5-0

April 14, 1911.

Mr. Francis W. Kelsey,

President of the Archaeological Institute
of America,

Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Sir:

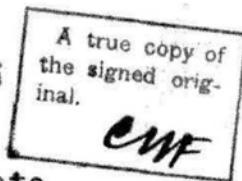
I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant, in further reference to the situation at Cyrene subsequent to the assassination of Mr. DeGou, and in reply refer to your call at the Department on the 11th instant in company with Mr. Gardiner H. Lane, of Boston, when the situation at Cyrene and the steps taken by this Department and the Embassy at Constantinople, and by the Ottoman Government, were discussed in full.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

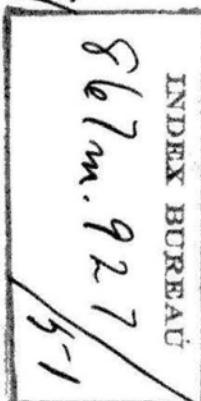
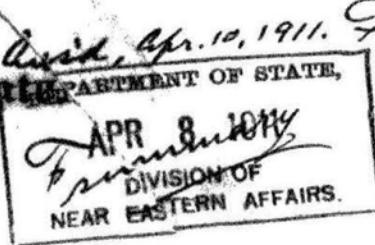


867 m. 927/50

3 E/P/19

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C.



April 7th, 1911.

Hon. Philander Knox,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.
My dear Mr. Secretary:-

You are no doubt familiar with the case of Professor Herbert Fletcher DeCou a citizen of Michigan who was killed by Arabs March 11th last while excavating on the site of Cyrene in Northern Africa.

I am very anxious to know what the status of the case is and if anything is being done to apprehend the assassins. I will esteem it a personal favor if you will cause this information to be sent to me.

Respectfully yours,

Edward M. House

JUL 20 1911
FILED

April 10, 1911.

19/LC 6 rev L 98

The Honorable Charles E. Townsend,
United States Senate.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, in reference to the recent murder of Mr. H. P. DeCou, a member of the American Archaeological expedition excavating at Cyrene, North Africa. You inquire regarding the status of this case and the action taken by this Government to secure the apprehension and punishment of the murderers and proper protection to the expedition.

The Department was informed of the murder of Mr. DeCou in a telegram from Mr. Norton at Cyrene, dated the 14th ultimo, and also by cable from the Embassy at Constantinople on the following day. Immediately upon receipt of this information the Department, in view of the fact that the American Consular officer nearest

nearest to the place of the crime is at Tripoli, some 600 miles distant, instructed the Embassy at Constantinople by cable to request, through the British Ambassador, that the British Consular officer at the port of Benghazi be instructed to do what he properly could in the matter of securing the apprehension and punishment of the guilty parties and providing proper protection for the American expedition. The Embassy also promptly made strong representations to the Sublime Porte, and was informed by the Ottoman Government that appropriate measures had already been taken in the sense requested.

From subsequent reports it is apparent that every effort is being made by the Embassy at Constantinople and by the British Consul at Benghazi and the American Consulate at Tripoli to secure the arrest of the assassins and to insure proper protection to the expedition. Mr. Norton assures his associates and this Government that public feeling at Cyrene is friendly to the American expedition, and the Embassy states that the Ottoman Government itself is doing all in its power to protect the expedition.

For your further information I enclose a copy of a despatch from the Embassy at Constantinople, dated

March 20th,

March 20th, indicating the attitude of the Ottoman Government and the action of the Embassy.

It is of course unnecessary for me to assure you that this Department will not fail to continue to accord to this matter its very careful attention.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

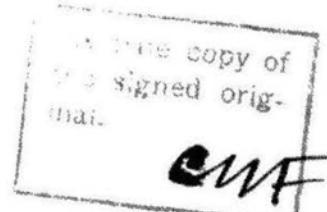
Your obedient servant,

E. C. KNOX

Enclosure:

From American Embassy, Constantinople,
March 20, 1911.

867 m. 927/51



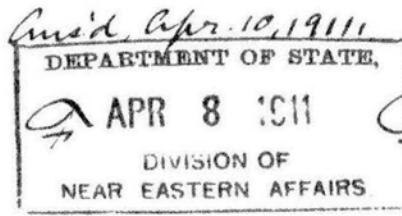
3 F/Ply. L

UNITED STATES SENATE,
WASHINGTON.



April 7, 1911.

Hon. Philander C. Knox,
Secretary of State,
Washington.

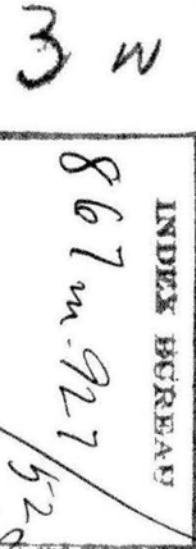


Dear Mr. Secretary:-

I enclose herewith a letter which I have received from Mr. Gardiner M. Lane, President of the Museum of Fine Arts of Boston, transmitting one from Mr. Richard Norton who is in charge of the archaeological work at Cyrene, regarding the murder by Arabs on March 11, 1911, of Mr. H. F. De Cou, urging that the State Department take vigorous action to secure indemnity and to see that ample protection is given the members of the American party who are continuing the work at Cyrene. I shall appreciate it if you will kindly advise me as to the steps which the Department has taken in this matter in order that I may inform me fully regarding it. Please return the enclosed letters with your reply.

Very respectfully,

W. M. Lane



JUL 29 1911
FILED

(Copy-P1)

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
BOSTON, MASS.

April 5, 1911.

Dear Senator Crane:

I am much interested in the expedition of the Archaeological Institute of America, to Cyrene. Permission was obtained from the Turkish Government to excavate there, and the party now at work is in charge of Mr. Richard Norton, one of the sons of Professor Charles Eliot Norton.

As you have recently seen from the papers, one of the party, viz., Mr. H. F. De Cou was murdered by Arabs. Enclosed I send you a copy of Mr. Norton's letter (the first to arrive) giving an account of this murder.

Mr. Allison V. Armour has seen the State Department in regard to this matter several times, and has urged upon that Department the necessity for vigorous action. I have communicated with the Department indirectly through Senator Lodge, to whom I am also sending a copy of the enclosed letter.

It would be a great source of satisfaction to me and to Mr. Norton's relatives who are in this country to know that the State Department is acting vigorously, that an indemnity has been demanded and that proper protection has been given (not promised) to Mr. Norton's party.

The work which Mr. Norton is carrying on promises much for the scholarship of this country.

Hon. W. Murray Crane,
United States Senate.
Yours faithfully,
GARDINER M. LANE.

Enclosure
Richard Norton to President Kellogg
March 12, 1911

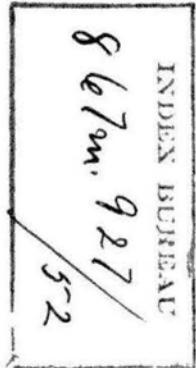
TELEGRAM SENT. 3 Y/FY, L



Department of State,

Washington, April 10, 1911. 5:00 p.m.

Fargy



Amembassy,

Constantinople.

Murder of DeCou is creating concern in Congress, and resolution of inquiry directed to Executive may be introduced, requiring immediate attention.

Cable at once action taken by Ottoman Government in matter of apprehension and punishment of parties who it appears are known.

Has Norton adequate guard and protection?

Henry

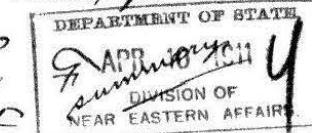
Enciphered by D

by Goyt Wm M. (10) 1911

Index Bu. - No. 50.



Torre & Cie
C.M.F.

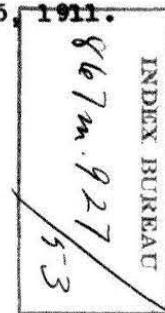


AMERICAN CONSULATE,

Tripoli-in-Barbary, N. Africa, March 25, 1911.

SUBJECT: Murder of Mr Decen at Cyrene.

FILE,
C.E.S.



THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to report receipt of the following telegram from Dernah, which arrived today by post from Malta, and was as follows:-

Derna 3/22/11. 7pm. 17 words.
"American Consul.

Tripoli-Bby.
"Thanks message arrived yesterday, officials here efficient
"believe murderers gone Bengazi, all well.
"Norton".

Upon receipt of this message I saw the Vali today, when His Excellency told me that the Turkish Government at Stamboul had given orders for thirty horsemen to be sent at once in pursuit of the murderers. He is very much concerned over the death of Mr Decen, and regrets that faulty telegraphic communication delays the receipt of full particulars, and of orders which are given to trace the culprits from reaching its destination quickly.

The Governor-General informed me that the names of the two Arabs who committed the murder are known, though he would not then give them to me, as he is awaiting confirmation first; he also said that the Dernah authorities had arrested as

AUG 1 1911
FILED

as hostages, (to ensure the arrest of the murderers) two men named IBRAHIM BIN ESWED, and ABDUL JELIL SCHELUB, who are brothers or first cousins, and the fathers of the two Arabs.

In a letter from the British Consul at Benghazi, dated the 16th instant, received by the British Consul-General here, it is reported that the two murderers left Bersis, a place in the vicinity of Teera, to kill Mr Decon.

The officer sent to Benghazi by the Vali on the 14th instant for the purpose of making enquiries, returned today and reported to the Pasha that Mr Decon was out shooting when he was shot by the two Arabs in broad day-light.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. E. Saunders.

American Vice Consul in Charge.

N.B. A copy of the above has been sent to the Embassy.

No. 75.

April 14, 1911.

967 m. 927

ES/

Arthur E. Saunders, Esquire,
American Vice Consul,

Tripoli-in-Barbary, North Africa.

Sir:

The Department has received and read with interest your despatch No. 28, of March 25th, in reference to the murder of Mr. DeCou, a member of the American archaeological expedition excavating at Cyrene. In this connection, I enclose herewith a copy of a portion of a despatch from the Embassy at Constantinople, dated March 20th, indicating the steps taken by the Embassy and the Sublime Porte in this matter.

The Embassy has been instructed to press firmly for the apprehension and punishment of the guilty parties, and for a strict investigation of all the circumstances connected with this regrettable incident.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For Mr. Knox:

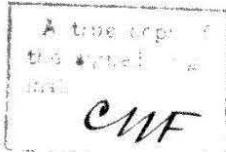
Wilbur J. Carr.

Enclosure:

From American Embassy, Constantinople,
March 20, 1911.

867 m. 927/53

3 F/Ply. ESW



D



TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

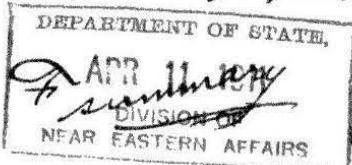
CIPHER

3 W

From Pera,

Dated April 11 1911,

Paraphrase (part, part)
to Smoot Lodge, Apr. 13.
Rec'd 2:00 P. M.



Secretary of State,
Washington.

April 11, 12 noon.

Your telegram April 10, 5 p. m. Minister for Foreign Affairs assured me Saturday that the largest powers had been given to the Governor at Bengazi with vigorous instructions to do whatever the situation required. I have sent another note to him today and will see him as well and report by telegram tonight.

Letters from Norton received this morning disclose no anxiety of present safety of expedition but complain of the inefficiency of the sub-Governor at Derna in his methods of investigating the murder which I have also reported to Rifaat with urgent request that he be replaced by a more competent man.

A United States warship at Bengazi as Norton suggests would be a good thing. It would impress the natives with the power of Norton's government and would strengthen the hands

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 81.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

Pera/2

From

hands of the Turkish Government whose control of those wild
arab tribes is not effective.

C A R T E R

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

3 W

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

The Octagon, Washington, D. C.

April 12, 1911.

Mr. Young,
Division of the Near East,
State Department,
Washington.

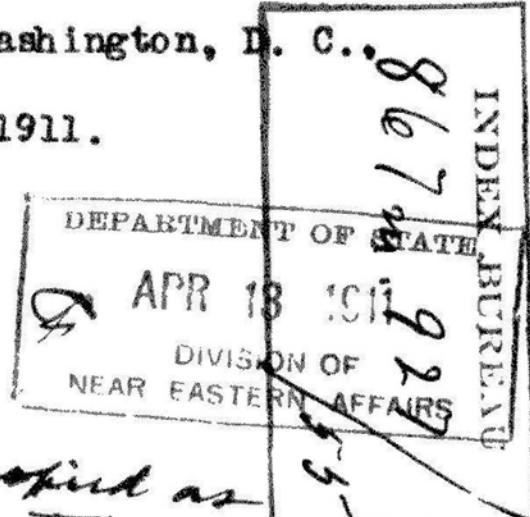
My dear Sir:

In the absence of Professor Carroll,

I beg to transmit to you copy of a letter just received at this office from Mr. Curtis, one of the members of the Cyrene expedition party.

Very sincerely,

Violet W. Pearson
Secretary.



JUL 29 1911
FILED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Letters from C. Densmore Curtis.

Cyrene, Mar. 14, 1911.

Dear Folks:

Will write you a little oftener for a time so that you will know that everything is all right with me. Norton is handling the situation remarkably well. He has the Arabs and the Turks, both workmen, officers and sheiks, entirely under his control and dictates what they shall do. We began work again today, only three days after the tragedy. I still have my old job of combination house work and tomb digging. It was very hard on Norton and Hoppin today, to go on the hill again with the changed conditions. I only hope Norton will not break down, as he works from early till late and sleeps very little. We are wondering just how much of this affair will get into the papers. Certainly there is going to be trouble ahead for some one. When the Turks punish they do it with no light hand, and I suppose the Kabyle of the murderers will be wiped out with fire and sword. It sounds mediaeval, but is the only thing to do in this country to preserve order. Hanging produces no diminution of crime whatever. The Kaima Kam arrived today from Derna, and there is already a prison full of witnesses who have been arrested to make sure they do not escape. The officials and Arabs here know that only by superhuman efforts in our behalf can they escape severe punishment themselves for allowing such a thing to happen. It seems that the murderers spent two days in Cyrene looking over the ground, and the men with whom they slept have already been arrested and will be tortured if they do not tell all they know. Our camp is now under almost too close military supervision. Sentries are posted in every direction, and none of us are allowed to stir out without a guard.

The weather is slowing improving. It was 60° in the shade at noon, and quite warm in the sun.

I don't believe I mentioned a photographic expedition I made with Hoppin last Friday. We went along the south side of the acropolis and then on the far side of the wadi (almost a canyon) on the west side, and both got some very good photographs. As good scenery as I have met for some time, with the rocky gorge below, and the plain and sea visible beyond the mouth of the wadi.

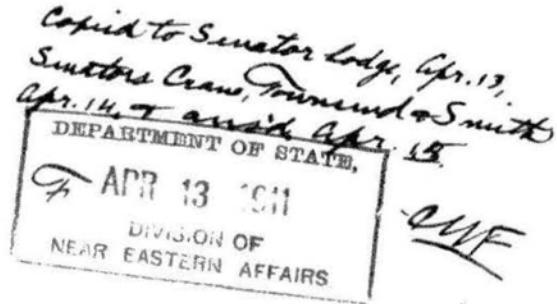
x x x x x x x x x x

Cyrene, March 17, 1911.

x x x x x x x x x x x x

"Things are quiet here. Several important officials from Benghazi and Derna have arrived and are conducting a strict investigation. The report is that the whole village of Birsis, where the murderers came from, has already been arrested and several members of the men's families are also being held.

x x x x x x x x x x x x



115-625
115-626
115-627

W

876.2/276.278

April 13, 1911.

The Honorable Henry Cabot Lodge,
United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to your call at the Department this morning concerning the recent murder of Mr. H. F. DeCou, a member of the American archaeological expedition excavating at Cyrene, North Africa, I have the honor to inform you that the Department was informed of the murder of Mr. DeCou in a telegram from Mr. Norton at Cyrene, dated the 14th ultimo, and also by cable from the Embassy at Constantinople on the following day. Immediately upon receipt of this information the Department, in view of the fact that the American Consul officer nearest to the place of the crime is at Tripoli, some 600 miles distant, instructed the Embassy at Constantinople by cable to request, through the British Ambassador, that the British Consular officer at the port of Benghazi be instructed

instructed to do what he properly could in the matter of securing the apprehension and punishment of the guilty parties and providing proper protection for the American expedition. The Embassy also promptly made strong representations to the Sublime Porte, and was informed by the Ottoman Government that appropriate measures had already been taken in the sense requested.

From subsequent reports it is apparent that every effort is being made by the Embassy at Constantinople and by the British Consul at Benghazi and the American Consulate at Tripoli to secure the arrest of the assassin and to insure proper protection to the expedition. Mr. Norton assures his associates and this Government that public feeling at Cyrene is friendly to the American expedition, and the Embassy states that the Ottoman Government itself is doing all in its power to protect the expedition.

For more detailed information regarding the action taken by the Embassy and the Ottoman Government looking to the apprehension and punishment of the guilty parties, I have the honor to refer you to the Department's letter of the 5th instant, wherewith was transmitted a copy of a despatch from the Embassy at Constantinople dated March 20th.

In this

In this same connection I enclose herewith for your information a paraphrase of a telegram received on the 11th instant from the Embassy at Constantinople, and a copy of a letter from Mr. C. D. Curtis, a member of the expedition at Cyrene, addressed on March 14th to his associates of the Archaeological Institute.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

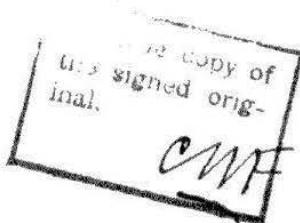
P. C. KNOX

Enclosures:

Paraphrase of telegram
from American Embassy, Constantinople,
received April 11, 1911;
Letter from C. D. Curtis to his associates,
March 14, 1911.

867 m. 927/

3 P/Fly.



W

867 m. 927
S/5

April 14, 1911.

The Honorable Winthrop Murray Crane,
United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to your inquiry of the 7th instant, and to the Department's reply of April 10th, regarding the murder of Mr. DeCou at Cyrene and the steps taken to secure the apprehension and punishment of the murderers, I have the honor to enclose herewith, for your further information, a paraphrase of a telegram from the Embassy at Constantinople, dated the 11th instant, and a copy of a letter from a member of the archaeological expedition at Cyrene to his associates in this country.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

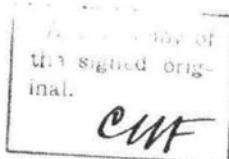
HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosures:

Paraphrase of telegram
from American Embassy, Constantinople,
April 11, 1911;
Letter from C. D. Curtis to his associates,
March 14, 1911.

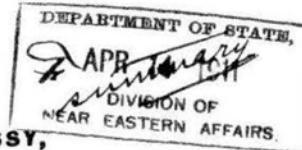
867 m. 927/
3 F/Ply.





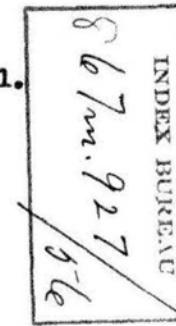
AMERICAN EMBASSY,
CONSTANTINOPLE.

No. 337.



March 27, 1911.

Copied to Rome, & to
Senators Crane, Lodge,
Smith & Townsend,
April 15, 1911.



FILE
JUL 21 1911

File
CWF

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

Since writing my despatch Number 324 of the 20th instant, relating to the regrettable assassination of Mr. Decou at Derna, I have received two letters from Mr. Norton giving more details about the unhappy occurrence.

He states that on the morning of the 11th, Mr. Decou started to stroll toward the hill where the excavations are, before the soldiers who usually acted as their guard had arrived, being accompanied by some of the workmen, and was shot and instantly killed while walking at a spot about three eighths of a mile from the camp. Two or three of these workmen were quite near him at the time he was shot and saw the Arabs who were concerned in the murder.

These Arabs are known to be outsiders, and the

Mudir

Mudir Hadj Saouan and the Captain of the guard, Edhem Effendi, who are both acting very efficiently, informed him that these men arrived at Derna three days before and that their names are known and the tribe to which they belong is one that inhabits the neighborhood of Tokra.

The local report there is that the murderers were instigated by the Italians. Mr. Norton says that he cannot prove this yet; but he personally believes it to be true. He says that the Italians during the past year have caused him much trouble by spreading false reports and by trying through their Consul at Bengazi, a levantin Jew, Bernabei , to buy land at Derna which they knew was included in the excavations, and subsequently the Italian archaeological party, which wanted to excavate at Cyrene, returned to Bengazi and acquired the right, so he was told, to excavate at Tokra, a town on the coast between Derna and Bengazi, and it was from Tokra that the murderers came to Cyrene.

As another bit of circumstantial evidence, Mr. Norton states that about ten days ago the Mudir informed him that the four principal Sheiks: "Bounagnas, Boumiriam, Boulhain, Bouglaida", had been approached by another outside Sheik and told that it would be to their advantage if something was done to force the American excavation to leave Cyrene. All these facts taken together, Mr. Norton thinks, put the Italians in a very serious position. He knows that they have acted in a very under-hand way. This assassination is of a piece with the whole conduct of their local Agency there.

He repeats again that there is absolutely no local disturbance at Cyrene, and that he has no intention, unless forced

forced, of leaving the work so well begun.

Mr. Decou was one of his oldest and most intimate friends, and he intends to make the work there a monument to his memory. He adds that no work can be too good as a memorial to his brave, sweet, and unflinching nature.

I have kept Rifaat Pasha, ^(Colonial Secretary for Foreign Affairs) fully informed of the situation as far as I know it; and he in turn has assured me that the most stringent orders and the largest possible power have been given to their local agents to the end that the assassins may be brought to justice and that every protection and support may be given to our expedition. And I am sure that in this they are perfectly genuine.

I telegraphed at once on the 24th instant to the Banca de Roma at Derna to ask whether the credit of two thousand pounds, mentioned in your telegram of March 23d 2 P.M., had been received. As yet, I have had no reply; but this is easily explained by the usual delay in the telegraph service.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. R. Carter

No. 191.

April 15, 1911.

867 m. 927/36

The Honorable

John G. A. Leishman,

American Ambassador,

Rome.

Sir:

Referring to the Department's telegram of March 16th, 6 p. m., and to subsequent correspondence, concerning the murder of Mr. DeCou, a member of the archaeological expedition at Cyrene, I enclose herewith for your information copies of despatches from the Embassy at Constantinople, No. 334 and 337, of March 20th and 27th respectively, in regard to this subject.

The Department desires that the Embassy keep itself informed as to Italian attitude, both official and private, towards this American expedition at Cyrene, and requests that you report from time such information as you may obtain regarding this matter.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HUNTINGTON WILSON

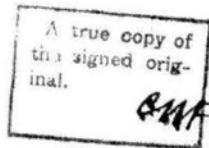
Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosures:

From American Embassy, Constantinople,
March 20 and 27, 1911.

867 m. 927/43, 56

3 F/Pl



3

April 15, 1911.

867m.927/56

Professor Mitchell Carroll,
General Secretary of the
Archaeological Institute of America,
The Octagon, Washington, D.C.

Sir:

The Department acknowledges with thanks the receipt of a note from your office, dated April 12th, enclosing a copy of a letter from Mr. C. D. Curtis, a member of the American expedition excavating at Cyrene, North Africa, concerning the murder of Mr. DeCou and the situation at Cyrene.

In this connection I enclose herewith, for the information of yourself and your associates of the Institute, a copy of a despatch just received from the Embassy at Constantinople, dated March 27th, giving further details regarding this incident and reporting the active steps taken by the Ottoman authorities in the matter.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HUNTINGTON WILSON

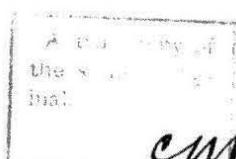
Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosure:

From Embassy at Constantinople,
March 27, 1911.

867m.927/56

3 Fy.



W

April 15, 1911.

The Honorable Winthrop Murray Crane,
United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning
the murder of Mr. DeCou at Cyrene and the steps taken
in behalf of the American archaeological expedition at
that place, I have the honor to enclose herewith for
your information a copy of a despatch just received
from the Embassy at Constantinople, dated March 27th,
reporting further regarding this incident and indicating
the manner in which the Ottoman Government is endeavor-
ing to bring about the apprehension and punishment of
the guilty parties.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

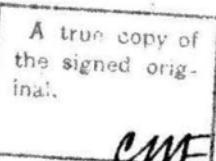
HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosure:

From American Embassy, Constantinople,
March 27, 1911.

867 m. 927/56
3 P/Ply.



✓

867 m. 927/56

April 15, 1911.

The Honorable Henry Cabot Lodge,
United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the murder of Mr. DeGou at Cyrene and the steps taken in behalf of the American archaeological expedition at that place, I have the honor to enclose herewith for your information a copy of a despatch just received from the Embassy at Constantinople, dated March 27th, reporting further regarding this incident and indicating the manner in which the Ottoman Government is endeavoring to bring about the apprehension and punishment of the guilty parties.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

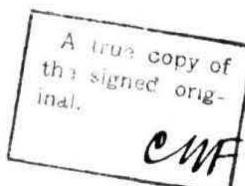
HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosure:

From American Embassy, Constantinople.
March 27, 1911.

867 m. 927/56
3 F/Ply.



3

April 15, 1911.

The Honorable William Alden Smith,

United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the murder of Mr. DeGou at Cyrene and the steps taken in behalf of the American archaeological expedition at that place, I have the honor to enclose herewith for your information a copy of a despatch just received from the Embassy at Constantinople, dated March 27th, reporting further regarding this incident and indicating the manner in which the Ottoman Government is endeavoring to bring about the apprehension and punishment of the guilty parties.

867 m. 927/56

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

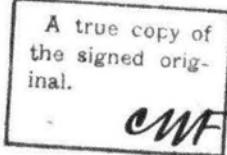
HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosure:

From American Embassy, Constantinople.
March 27, 1911.

867 m. 927/56
3 P/P19.



April 10, 1911.

49-1676, m 198

The Honorable Winthrop Murray Crane,
United States Senate,

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, in reference to the recent murder of Mr. H. F. DeCou, a member of the American Archaeological expedition excavating at Cyrene, North Africa. You enclose a letter from Mr. Gardiner M. Lane, of Boston, together with a letter from Mr. Richard Norton to Mr. Lane, and inquire regarding the status of this case and the action taken by this Government to secure the apprehension and punishment of the murderers and proper protection to the expedition.

The Department was informed of the murder of Mr. DeCou in a telegram from Mr. Norton at Cyrene, dated the 14th ultimo, and also by cable from the Embassy at Constantinople on the following day. Immediately upon receipt of this information the Department, in view

view of the fact that the American Consular officer nearest to the place of the crime is at Tripoli, some 600 miles distant, instructed the Embassy at Constantinople by cable to request, through the British Ambassador, that the British Consular officer at the port of Benghazi be instructed to do what he properly could in the matter of securing the apprehension and punishment of the guilty parties and providing proper protection for the American expedition. The Embassy also promptly made strong representations to the Sublime Porte, and was informed by the Ottoman Government that appropriate measures had already been taken in the sense requested.

From subsequent reports it is apparent that every effort is being made by the Embassy at Constantinople and by the British Consul at Benghazi and the American Consulate at Tripoli to secure the arrest of the assassins and to insure proper protection to the expedition. Mr. Norton assures his associates and this Government that public feeling at Cyrene is friendly to the American expedition, and the Embassy states that the Ottoman Government itself is doing all in its power to protect the expedition.

For your further information I enclose a copy of a despatch from the Embassy at Constantinople, dated

March 20th,

March 20th, indicating the attitude of the Ottoman Government and the action of the Embassy.

It is of course unnecessary for me to assure you that this Department will not fail to continue to accord to this matter its very careful attention.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. G. KNOX

Enclosure:

From American Embassy, Constan tinople.
March 20, 1911.

867 m. 927/

3 F/Ply. L

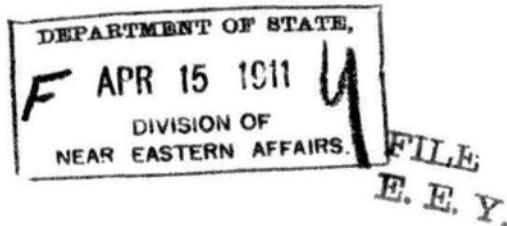




UNITED STATES SENATE,
WASHINGTON.

April 13, 1911.

Hon. P. C. Knox,
Secretary of State,
Washington.

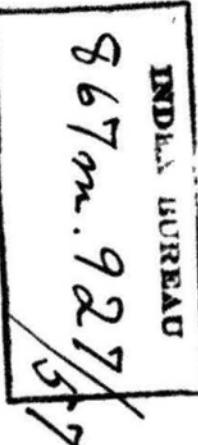


Dear Mr. Secretary:-

I thank you for your letter of the 10th instant in reference to the recent murder of Mr. H. F. DeCou, a member of the American Archaeological expedition excavating at Cyrene, North Africa. I shall inform Mr. Gardiner M. Lane of Boston who wrote me originally regarding this matter of the information contained in your letter, and I am sure that he will also appreciate your assurance that the Department will continue to accord this matter very careful attention.

Sincerely yours,

W.M. Crane



APR 15 1911
FILED



New York

Act'd. Apr. 18, 1911.

April 14, 1911

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

APR 15 1911

DIVISION OF

NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

The Honorable P. C. Knox,

The Secretary of State, Washington.

SIR:

I have the honor to transmit to you a copy of the report made March 15, 1911, by Richard Norton at Syrene, to the Kaimakan of Derna in regard to the assassination of Herbert Fletcher De Sou, March 11th; and also a copy of Mr. Norton's letter dated March 17, to the same official.

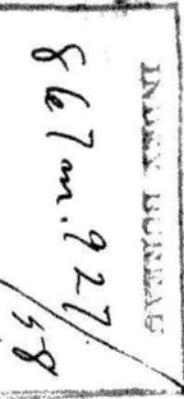
Respectfully yours,

Frank W. Kellogg

President

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA.

APR 18 1911
FILED



Syrene, 15 Mars, 1911.

A S. E. Le Kaimakam de Derna,

J'annonce la réception de votre lettre de hier demandant un rapport détaillé sur le meutre de Mons. N. F. De Sou accompli le 11e Mars. Hier je vous ai dit tout ce que je sais de cette tragédie et nous avons examinés l'endroit en compagnie de votre commissaires.

L'onze Mars (11) je me suis levé un peu tard parceque pour quelques nuits avant je n'ai pas pu me coucher par cause de la maladie de notre Médecin. Mons. Curtis m'a réveillé à 5 heures me disant qu'il avait entendu des coups de fusil dans la direction des fouilles et qu'un Arab criait que quelqu'un avait tiré des coups contre Mons. De Sou. Immédiatement j'ai courru vers l'endroit en même temp envoyant des ordres au Mudir, Hadj Sacuan, et à l'Uzbashi, Adhem Effendi. Tous les deux étaient déjà avisés de l'affaire. Vers 8'12" (huit heures douze) je suis arrivé à la colline où sont les fouilles et là j'ai trouvé le corps de mon collègue presque à la moitié de la colline. Il était déjà mort, et il était facile de comprendre que les meutriers avaient tiré sur lui cachés par des murailles qui sont à une distance de vingt mètres de l'endroit où il tomba. Vous vous rapperez que hier nous avons trouvés les traces du coup sur une pierre dans ces murailles. Le corps était percé (même traversé) par deux balles comme vous avez constaté à l'autopsie hier. Le Mudir et l'Uzbashi ont fait tout possible pour m'aider. L'ensevelissement a pris place le jour après vers quatres heures du soir.

Le jour du meutre Mons. De Sou est sorti de notre maison après l'appel des ouvriers et est parti lentement comme était son habitude

aux fouilles accompagné par les ouvriers (environ 55 en nombre) qui le suivaient et le devançaient en petits groupes. Sans doute tous les ouvriers ont été témoins du crime et par conséquence il est certainement probable qu'ils aient vus et reconnus les assassins. La raison pour laquelle mon compagnon n'était pas escorté est que malgré mes reclamations continues auprès des autorités militaires locales pour obtenir une escorte de bonne heure aux fouilles je n'ai jamais eu la satisfaction à cette demande. Après le meutre les ouvriers sont retournés très effrayés et ont conseigné les outils.

Immédiatement la rumeur s'est éparsé que les meutrières appartiennent à la Kabyle Sheberga, famille Ait el Shelmi, habitant Birais, environs de Sokra et à Wady Maagoura, et la rumeur locale est aussi qu'ils sont instigés par l'influence Italienne. L'après midi du 11 Mars le Mudir m'a soumis les noms des deux meutrières, (Ibrahim bou Soucil, El Naghas bou Abd el Gelil) me communiquant qu'un troisième complice qui avait été vu sans armes est encore inconnu. Il a même ajouté qu'il avait découvert où les meutrières avaient passé les deux nuits avant le meutre (chez Bou Snaib et Hamid el Qurt).

A la réunion officielle tenue chez l'Ubbashi, le Mashaiek ont témoigné sur jurament que les meutrières n'appartiennent pas à ce district, qu'ils sont bergers au service des Italiens et qu'ils ont été instigés par ces derniers après la promesse d'une forte récompense.

Sheik Mfahas, de la Kabyle Sheberga, famille Ait Mousa et Peishi, m'a dit hier avoir entendu qu'une personne de Bengazi se trouvant ici, il y a quelques jours, a rapporté que les Italiens ont offert 10 livres sterling à qui m'aurait assassiné, -- notez que ce fait

a été entendu de plusieurs bouches.

Avant votre arrivé j'ai suggéré au Mudir et à l'Ugbashi l'immédiat arrêt de Sheikh Boumiram et de son fils Mohammed, des membres de l'Aït Shelmi demeurant à Syrene et des différents personnes avec lesquelles les meutriers avaient été en rapport avant et après le crime.

La raison de ma demande pour l'arrêt de Shk. Boumiriam et de son fils Mohammed vous a été déjà expliquée. Au mois de Décembre passé le fils m'avait menacé, aussi un de mes compagnons et aussi Mons. Camilleri à la présence de Salah el Medaouy qui avait arrêté et mis subitement en liberté contre la garantie de son père qui jura en ma présence d'exiler son fils entièrement du district. Notez bien que j'ai cédé à la priere du père contre la garantie et sa parole d'honneur. En Février dernier le sujet en question a été vu par moi même armé comme d'habitude quand il passait près de notre maison. Je contaïs remontrer auprès du Mudir mais mon interprète m'a dit que Mohammed ben Hassan avait été rappelé par la Zaghouya pour donner son témoignage à propos d'un meutre commis dans les environs et dont il était soupçonné d'être l'auteur. Dernièrement le-dit Mohammed avait été inscrit dans la liste des ouvriers sous un nom faux et ce fait fut découvert quatre jours avant le meutre de Mons. De Sou par un fracas pour lequel il avait, de nouveau, été mis aux arrêts. Deux jours avant le crime le prisonnier s'est évadé. Or mettez ensemble tous ces incidents et vous devrez forcément constater que caractère et la conduite du mentionné ci-dessus est plus ou moins douteuse et dangereuse. Le soir du meutre mon interprète qui pour bonne raison soupçonnait Mohammed, se trouva en communication avec Hadj Ibrahim qui ne connaît absolument pas Mohammed donna en détail la description des traits de la personne par nous soupçonnée.

Vous admettez que ce fait augmente mes doutes à propos de Mohammed qui je pense devrait être mis sous une examinatien très minute. Le père, d'autre part, qui est responsable de toutes les actions de son fils pourrait aussi donner son témoignage à propos et devrait même forcé à prouver un alibi favorable.

D'après votre demande de vous exposer mes soupçons vous voyez que je fais tout mon possible pour aider la Justice à prendre sa revanche. Pour éviter des tâches-questions difficiles entre nos deux Gouvernements qui d'ailleurs jusqu'à présent ont été en des relations tout à fait amicales je conseil que des fortes mésures soient prises au plus tot, aboutissantes à bon fin.

Agréez Excellence, l'expression de ma haute estime,

(Signé) Richard Norton.

Copie

Sirène, le 17 Mars, 1911.

A S. B. le Kaimakam de Derna,
à Sirène.

Excellence:

Le rapport demandé par votre lettre du 14 Mars a été remis en détail avant hier soir le 15 cour. Les noms des personnes vous y mentionnées vous auront sans doute aidé à trouver la vérité, pourvu que vous les traitiez avec sévérité. A présent ils sont effrayés et il est absolument nécessaire de les forcer de dire ce qu'ils savent.

Sheikh Mfahas m'a dit hier qu'il peut emmener un des hommes dont le témoignage nous sera du plus grand avantage.

En Europe, au moins, dans une affaire similaire, est de tenir aux arrêts les témoins importants jusqu'à ce qu'une décision éclaircie et satisfaisante soit obtenue. Je suis certain que mon Gouvernement exigera que les autorités locales soient tenues responsables et pour prévenir cette réclamation vous admetterez qu'il est absolument nécessaire d'imprisonner les chefs des tribus -- c'est à dire les Mashaikh.

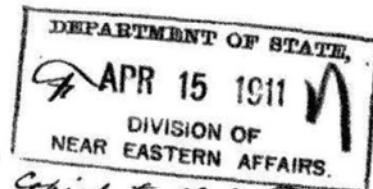
Agreez, Excellence, l'expression de mon haut regard,
(Signé) Richard Norton.



New York, April 14, 1911.

The Honorable P. C. Knox,
Secretary of State, Washington.

Sir:



INDEX BUREAU

As some question has been raised in regard to the purpose of the American Expedition under the direction of Mr. Richard Norton now engaged in excavating on the site of Cyrene, in North Africa, I beg to assure you that this Expedition is exclusively scientific in character; that the contributors who supply the funds for its support are interested in the advancement of the knowledge of history and of the history of Art through exploration and discovery, and have contributed for that purpose alone; that Mr. Norton, and those on his staff at Cyrene, are experts in Archaeology, and that Mr. Herbert Fletcher De Cou, who was killed, was a man of international recognition as an archaeologist; that no one connected with the Expedition has the slightest interest in sulphur, petroleum or other natural products which have been mentioned in connection with foreign interests in the Cyrenaica; and that both this Expedition to Cyrene and other expeditions to foreign countries administered by the Archaeological Institute of America are absolutely restricted to the purposes for which the Institute was formed, as stated in the Articles of Incorporation which, approved by the President of the United States May 26th, 1906, are on file in the Department of State in Washington.

Respectfully yours,

Francis W. Kelsey
President of the
Archaeological Institute of America.

No. 193.

April 18, 1911.

b-5
W
6-5/126.m/28

The Honorable

John G. A. Leishman,

American Ambassador,

Rome.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the American archaeological expedition at Cyrene, and with special reference to the frequent suggestion, in the Italian press and elsewhere, that this expedition is for other than purely scientific purposes, I enclose herewith, for your information and for judicious use, a copy of a letter just received from the President of the Archaeological Institute of America, dated at New York on April 14th, categorically denying the existence of any object or aim of this expedition other than the advancement of the science of archaeology, and disclaiming all interest in the location or exploitation of the natural resources of the country in which the expedition is working.

I am, Sir,

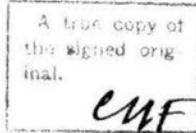
Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

Enclosure:

From Francis W. Kelsey,
April 14, 1911.

867 m. 927/59
3 F/Ply.



W
867 m. 927/59
b-5/

April 18, 1911.

Mr. Francis W. Kelsey,

President of the Archaeological Institute of America,

Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Sir:

The Department acknowledges the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, wherein you state the purpose of the American expedition excavating at Cyrene and declare that this expedition is in no way interested in sulphur, mineral oil, or other natural resources in the Ottoman Empire.

Copies of your letter have been transmitted to the Ambassador at Rome and to Minister Carter at Constantinople, for their information and judicious use.

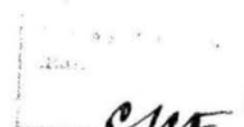
I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

867 m. 927/59

3 P/Plg.



3 W

TELEGRAM RECEIVED. C I P H E R .

B.

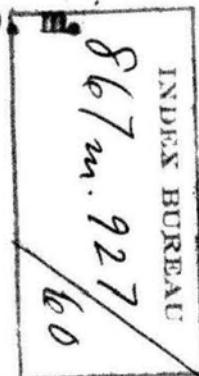
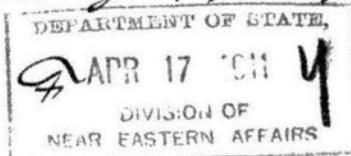


From Pera,

Dated April 17, 1911,

Rec'd 2 p. m.

and by tel. Apr. 17, 4 p. m.

Secretary of State, ~~copy to~~
Washington.Paraphrase to Senators
Crane, Lodge, Smith &
Townerd & to Mr. Carroll,

Apr. 18, 1911.

File EW

JUL 29 1911
RECD

My telegram April 11, 12 noon. Rifaat has sent further peremptory instructions to Governor at Bengazi in the line of my recommendations. Is awaiting full report from latter on the situation. Telegram from Norton this morning says though Governor doing all he can is unable to effect arrest of murderers which is discouraging but local conditions are satisfactory and military protection sufficient for the time being.

C A R T E R .

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

TELEGRAM SENT. 3 Y/FY.

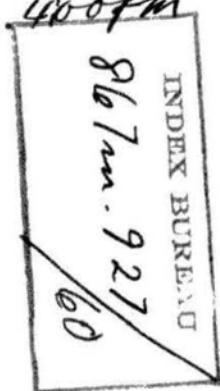
W

Department of State,

Washington, April 17, 1911

400pm

Falby



Ambassador,

Constantinople.

Your telegram April 17, 3 p.m. More than a month has elapsed since murder of Deou, and this Government cannot but view with great concern the failure of Ottoman officials to arrest and punish guilty parties. The immediate removal of the Kaimakam at Derna, who appears to be weak and inefficient, and the appointment of a more energetic official seems essential. Despatch of a warship is under consideration. Meanwhile you will continue your energetic representations at the Porte.

Thurz

Enciphered by

Postally by A.P.M., Apr. 17, 1911,

Index Bu. - No. 56.

W
867m.927/60

April 18, 1911.

Professor Mitchell Carroll,
General Secretary of the
Archaeological Institute of America,
The Octagon, Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the murder of Mr. DeGou and the subsequent situation at Cyrene, I enclose herewith, for the information of yourself and of your associates, the paraphrases of telegrams exchanged yesterday with the Embassy at Constantinople on this subject.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

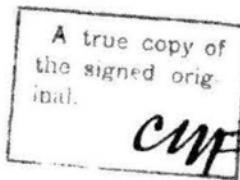
P. G. KNOX

Enclosures:

From Constantinople, April 17, 3 p.m.;
To Constantinople, April 17, 4 p.m.

867m.927/60

3 Fy.



W

April 18, 1911.

The Honorable Winthrop Murray Crane,
United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the murder of Mr. DeGou and the subsequent situation at Cyrene, I have the honor to enclose herewith for your information the paraphrases of telegrams exchanged yesterday with the Embassy at Constantinople on this subject.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

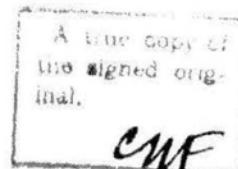
P. C. KNOX

Enclosures:

From Constantinople, April 17, 3 p.m.;
To Constantinople, April 17, 4 p.m.

867 m. 927/60

3 F/Ply.



2

867m.927/60

April 18, 1911.

The Honorable Henry Cabot Lodge,
United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the murder of Mr. DeGou and the subsequent situation at Cyrene, I have the honor to enclose herewith for your information a copy of a telegram from the Embassy at Constantinople, of yesterday's date, together with a paraphrase of the Department's telegraphic reply of the same day.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

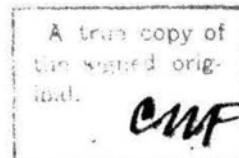
P. C. KNOX

Enclosures:

From Constantinople, telegram,
April 17, 3 p.m.;
To Constantinople, telegram,
April 17, 4 p.m.

867m.927/60

3 Fy.



09/2/26 - m/78

April 18, 1911.

The Honorable William Alden Smith,
United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the murder of Mr. DeCou and the subsequent situation at Cyrene, I have the honor to enclose herewith for your information the paraphrases of telegrams exchanged yesterday with the Embassy at Constantinople on this subject.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

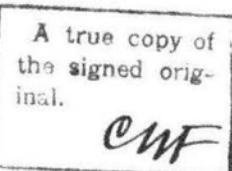
P. C. KNOX

Enclosures:

From Constantinople, April 17, 3 p.m.;
To Constantinople, April 17, 4 p.m.

867 m. 927/60

3 P/Pl 4.



3

Lobby

April 17, 1911.

09/7/26 rev 198

My dear Senator Lodge:

The Secretary directs me to send you a copy of a telegram just received from our Embassy in Turkey in regard to the De Cou murder.

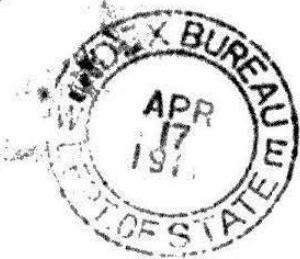
Very respectfully yours,

G. A. Nixon

Private Secretary.

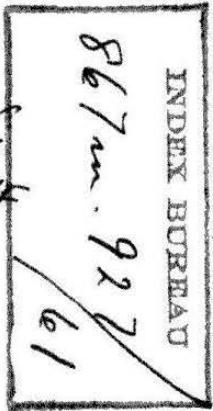
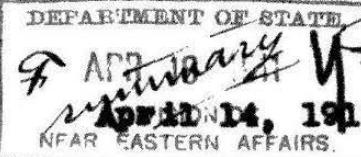
The Honorable Henry Cabot Lodge,

United States Senate.



44, STATE STREET,
BOSTON.

Copied to Cables Rome,
and Paris, Apr. 19, 1911.



To the
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am entirely familiar with the purposes of the expedition to Cyrene sent out by the Archaeological Institute of America. This expedition is in charge of Mr. Richard Norton.

It has, I believe, been rumored that the real purpose of the expedition was to search for oil or sulphur, that it was a commercial expedition and not one having a purely scientific object, viz., archaeological research. I can state without qualification of any sort that the sole and only object of this expedition is archaeological research.

The Archaeological Institute of America is a literary and scientific Society. It has undertaken the work at Cyrene in the interests of scholarship and to increase the knowledge of the civilization of the ancient Greeks and Romans.

The expedition is in no way interested in the discovery of oil or sulphur. It has no commercial or business interests of any kind. It is supported entirely by voluntary

JUL 29 1911
FILED

To the Secretary of State, - 2.

subscriptions of ladies and gentlemen whose sole interest
is in the archaeological work.

Very truly yours,

Gardiner Martin Lane

No. 194.

April 19, 1911.

W

19
h 26 m 198

The Honorable

John G. A. Leishman,

American Ambassador,

Rome.

Sir:

Referring to the Department's instruction No. 193, of yesterday's date, enclosing a letter from the President of the Archaeological Institute of America concerning the purpose of the expedition now excavating at Cyrene on behalf of this Institute, I enclose herewith for your information a copy of a similar letter from Mr. Gardiner M. Lane of Boston, one of the Institute's commissioners for the Cyrene expedition, unreservedly declaring that the sole object of the expedition is archaeological research.

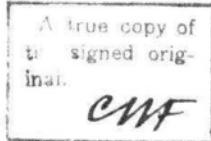
I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

Enclosure:

From Gardiner M. Lane,
April 14, 1911.



867m.927/61

3 F.Y.

W

April 19, 1911.

867m.927
19/

Mr. Gardiner M. Lane,
44 State Street,
Boston, Massachusetts.

Sir:

The Department acknowledges the receipt of your letter of April 14th, wherein you declare unreservedly that the sole object of the expedition excavating at Cyrene on behalf of the Archaeological Institute of America is archaeological research.

Copies of your letter, and also of a similar letter from Mr. Francis W. Kelsey, President of the Institute, have been transmitted to the Embassies at Constantinople and Rome, for the information and judicious use of the Embassies in overcoming the erroneous ideas which appear to prevail in certain quarters regarding this point.

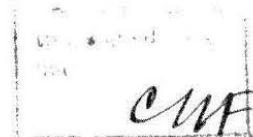
I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

D. G. RICHARDSON

867m.927/61

3 Fy.



No. 330.

April 20, 1911.

867m.927/1

John R. Carter, Esquire,

Minister Plenipotentiary in temporary charge of
American Embassy, Constantinople.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the American archaeological expedition at Cyrene, and with special reference to the frequent suggestion, in the Italian press and elsewhere, that this expedition is for other than purely scientific purposes, I enclose herewith, for your information and judicious use, copies of letters from Mr. Francis W. Kelsey, President of the Archaeological Institute of America, and from Mr. Gardiner M. Lane, one of the commissioners for the Cyrene expedition, unreservedly declaring that the sole object of this expedition is archaeological research and disclaiming all interest in the location or exploitation of the natural resources of the country where the expedition is working.

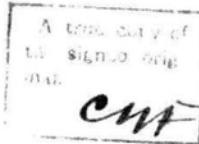
I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. G. KNOX

Enclosures:

From Francis W. Kelsey.
April 14, 1911;
From Gardiner M. Lane,
April 14, 1911.

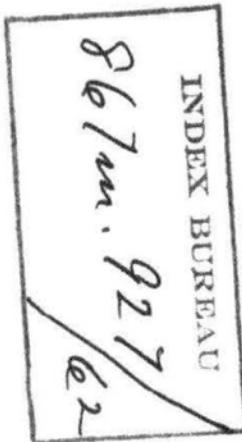
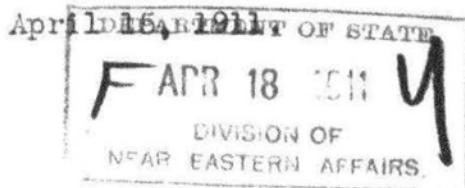


867m.927/59-61

3 F 9.

33

UNITED STATES SENATE,
WASHINGTON.



Hon. Huntington Wilson,
Acting Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

P. H.
R. R. Y.

Dear Mr. Secretary:-

Your letter of the 14th instant is received.

I thank you for it and for the enclosures relative to the murder of Mr. De Cou at Cyrene. I shall send these to Mr. Gardiner M. Lane of Boston so that he may be fully informed as to the steps that are being taken.

Very truly yours,

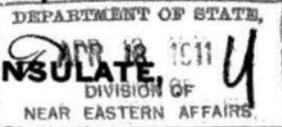
W. M. Lane

JUL 28 1911
FILED

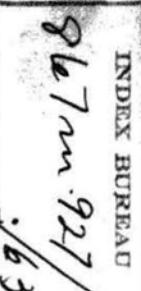
Secretary of State,
No. 29.
APR 20 1911



AMERICAN CONSULATE



Tripoli-in-Barbary, N. Africa, April 2, 1911.



SUBJECT: MURDER OF MR DE COU AT CYRENE.

JUL 20 1911
FILED

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to enclose for your information, copy of a letter received yesterday from Mr Norton, of the American Excavation Expedition at Cyrene.

I have today seen His Excellency the Vali of Tripoli, to enquire if he can bring pressure to bear upon the Authorities at Benghazi and Dernah, with a view to the speedy arrest of the murderers of Mr De Cou.

The Vali says he can do nothing with the Mutessarif of Benghazi, who receives his instructions direct from Stambeoul, but that he (the Vali), has Military control over that district, and has already given orders to the military Commandant to do all that is in his power to effect arrest of the culprits.

My impression is, that with every good intention, nothing at all will be done through orders issued from here.

The natives of the Benghazi district consider themselves independent of Turkish rule, in addition to which they

No. 29.

-2-

April 2, 1911.

they are only for the most part, semi-civilized, and the only factor which they respect is that of Force.

The native papers of Tripoli are already referring to "the murder of the American", in a sneering way, and threatening any other European Expedition into the Interior with a like result.

I agree with Mr Norton that the presence of a battleship off this Coast, would have the desired result of bringing the murderers to speedy justice, and have today cabled the Department suggesting that an American ship might be sent as quickly as possible, to make a demonstration.

A copy of this despatch, and cablegram enclosed, have been sent to the Embassy at Constantinople.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. E. Saunders.

American Vice Consul in Charge.

ENCLOSURES:-

Copy of letter from Dernah.

Confirmation copy of cablegram sent to the Department.

- COPY -

CYRENE. March 26th 1911.

To The American Consul.

T R I P O L I.

My Dear Sir.

I have not written you since my telegram, because we are so completely cut off from the outside world here, that I have not known what was being done by the Ottoman Authorities in regard to the murder of Mr De Cou.

Three days after the murder the Kaimakam of Derna arrived here, he stayed several days and did nothing. I provided him with a considerable amount of information, which if he had used it, would almost certainly have produced important results; but he saw fit to disregard it.

By means of spies I found two men who had talked with the murderers a few hours after the crime was committed; but he seemed to take little interest in them. I gave him the names of three men here with whom it is practically certain the murderers had dealings, and with one of whom they passed the night. He asked them a few questions and let them go. I begged him again and again to arrest the whole Ait el Shelmi, the place to which the murderers belong; or at least those families which live there; but he replied that there was no reason to do this. The Mudir here also told him to do this. In fact, so far as I can see he missed every opportunity he had for being useful.

It is ridiculous to try and manage such an affair here as one would had it taken place in a settled and civilized district.

The country is utterly uncivilized, and the people recognize only force; and not legal procedure.

If the whole Ait el Shelmi were arrested and kept under arrest; it is certain that they would quickly tell all they know about the murderers.

I have sent a protest to the Mutessarif at Bengazi against the Kaimakam's mismanagement; but I wish you would do the same for me to the Vali at Tripoli.

What is being done at Bengazi I have not yet heard; I hoped some one of our battleships might be sent here, as the natives understand that sort of thing; but I suppose they are all employed in the strenuous duty of protecting our coastwise trade.

Believe me, Sir,

Very truly yours.

(signed) Richard Norton.

AMERICAN CONSULAR SERVICE

Tripoli-in-Barbary, N. Africa, April 2, 1911.

**CONFIRMATION COPY OF
CABLEGRAM.**

SECSTATE.

W A S H I N G T O N.

FOCBY NORTON 49334 14698 40494 16173 26212 22480
40911 50138 30820 51906 55653 55817 20795 25339
44238 19333 30404 53996 25897.

SAUNDERS.

No. 16.

April 26, 1911.

867 m. 927

3
E 9 / L 26 m. 8

John Q. Wood, Esquire,
American Consul,
Tripoli-in-Barbary,
North Africa.

Sir:

The Department has received and read with interest Mr. Saunders's despatch No. 29, of the 2nd instant, in further reference to the incident at Cyrene and the steps subsequently taken to secure the arrest and punishment of the murderers of Mr. DeCon and to afford adequate protection to this American expedition.

The Department realizes the difficulty of bringing pressure to bear at Tripoli which will result in any proper activity on the part of the officials in the Sandjak of Bengazi. You are, however, instructed to continue to press for the maintenance of a proper military guard for this expedition, and will endeavor in such ways as may be possible to assist the Sublime Porte and the Embassy in their efforts to protect this expedition.

I am, Sir,

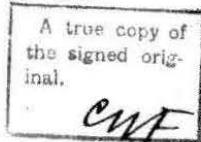
Your obedient servant,

For Mr. Knox:

Wilbur J. Carr.

867 m. 927/63

3 F/P15.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

April 29, 1911.

Dear Mr. Carr:

As you know, the Secretary is very much interested in this DeCou matter, and Senator Lodge and several others are inquiring about it frequently.

Consul Laing would of course expect or have no official recognition at Cyrene or elsewhere in Turkish territory; but Consul Wood is still absent from Tripoli, V.C. Saunders is a British merchant, and the civil authorities ~~in~~ in the Benghazi Sandjak would refuse to recognize them too.

If you see fit, I think it will be well to have Mr. Laing accompany Armour and do what he can to assist in getting at the facts regarding this murder. We might even instruct Constantinople to secure Laing's temporary recognition in Benghazi, but perhaps this is unnecessary, and it might be unwise, because of the delicacy of the situation at Cyrene and Laing's lack of familiarity with the extraterritorial conditions in Turkey.

May I see you about this?

C. M. F.

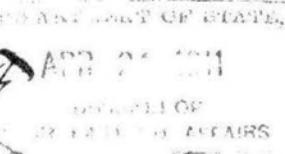
3 AM.

Ans'd apr.
26, 1911. 3 to ans.

William and Pine Street



New York April 21, 1911



KUHN, LOEB & CO.

My dear Mr. Wilson:

My attention has been drawn to a report coming from Cyrene, stating that the Turkish guards, which were to protect the American Excavating Expedition, have been withdrawn - that the mur-
derers of Mr. DeCou are at large again and that the witnesses have been released.

I am deeply interested in this matter, as poor Mr. DeCou was for a year Private Secretary to Mr. James Loeb, my brother-in-law, and it was Mr. Loeb who got him the position with the American Excavating Expedition. You can imagine how much distressed Mr. Loeb is, and we all are, at the tragic end of this poor man.

I understand that the Archaeological Institute of America has asked you to take steps for the protection of the American Expedition, and I make free to add these few lines.

Mr. Norton, the head of the present Expedition, being a personal friend of mine, I feel deeply the danger to which these American citizens, who risk their lives for the sake of art and science, are exposed.

I am looking forward to the pleasure of seeing you on Sunday. My brother Max, as you know, is the gentleman who has been our able negotiator in Germany and France, in Chinese and Liberian matters. I wonder whether Secretary Knox would be interested in meeting him. Needless to say, my brother would greatly appreciate the honor of meeting the Secretary, but I hesitate to

APR 26 1911
FILED

1. 867m.927/64

INDEX BUREAU

2.

intrude upon him on a Sunday. If the Secretary would welcome a short call by my brother, of course, any time convenient to him will be convenient for us, and if in that case you would kindly send me a message to the New Willard Hotel, where we shall arrive Sunday morning, I should greatly appreciate it.

Looking forward to the pleasure of seeing you soon, I am

Yours very truly,

Huntington Wilson

H

Hon. Huntington Wilson,
Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

W

April 26, 1911.

Mr. Paul M. Warburg,
Kuhn, Loeb and Company,
William and Pine Streets,
New York City.

Sir:

I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, wherein you express the interest of Mr. Loeb and yourself in the American expedition at Cyrene and the conditions surrounding this American party since the murder of Mr. DeCou.

In reply you are informed that although, so far as the Department is advised, the murderers of Mr. DeCou have not as yet been apprehended, it appears that everything possible is being done by the Ottoman Government at Constantinople and by the local authorities in the Province of Bengazi to extend full protection to this expedition and to secure the arrest and punishment of those who committed this crime.

The latest

4/26/m/98

The latest information received by the Department is contained in a telegram from the Embassy at Constantinople, dated April 17th, stating that the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs has sent further peremptory instructions to the Governor at Bengazi in the sense recommended by the Embassy, and that a telegram received on the 17th from Mr. Norton reports that although the arrest of the murderers has not yet been accomplished the Governor is doing all he can and that local conditions are satisfactory and military protection for the expedition is sufficient for the time being.

I am, Sir,

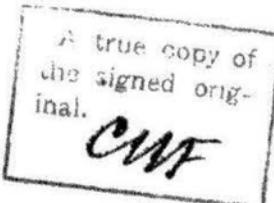
Your obedient servant,

HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

867 m. 927/64

3 F/Pl



D

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

PLAIN



From Malta,

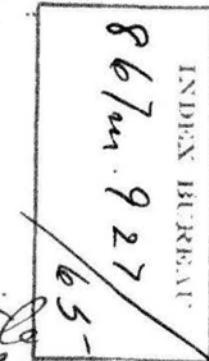
Undated,

Rec'd April 28 1911, 3:06 P. M.



Secretary of State,
Washington.

and, etc to Consul
at Malta & Embassy
at Cipe, Apr. 29, 1911.



Recently visited Cyrene. Returning immediately.
May Consul Laing accompany unofficially assist gathering
information re DeCou murder.

ALLISON ARMOUR

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

TELEGRAM SENT. 3 F/PIA

Cipher



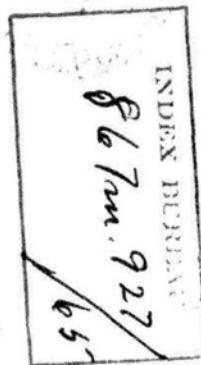
Department of State,

Washington, April 29, 1911. 12 noon

American Consul,

Malta.

FILE-BU. OF ACCTS.



FILED
MAY 3 1911

Leave granted. Accompany Armour and discreetly assist investigations regarding DeCon murder. Your action necessarily unofficial, but Constantinople has been instructed to inform the Ottoman Government and to request for you such facilities as Bengazi authorities can properly extend. Report in full by mail to Embassy Constantinople and to Department.

Knox

(2074)

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

Index Bu.—No. 50.

927 TELEGRAM SENT. 3 F/PTD. *w*

Department of State,



Washington, April 29, 1911.

12 noon

Febr.

86 fm. 927
INDEXED
APR 30 1911

Anembassy,

Constantinople.

Consul Laing, Malta, is accompanying Armour unofficially to assist investigations at Cyrene. Inform the Sublime Porte, requesting for Laing such facilities as Bengazi authorities can properly extend. Also inform British Embassy, expressing appreciation of services rendered by Consul Jones and requesting his continued assistance in this matter.

Sauv

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

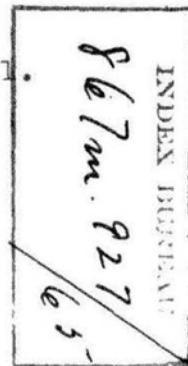
Index Bu.—No. 50.

W
TELEGRAM SENT. 3 F/PI



P
Department of State,

Washington, April 29, 1911.



Allison Armour,
Yacht UTOWANA,
Malta.

Yes. Laing instructed.

1200x

(607.6)

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

Index Bu.—No. 50.

W

May 1, 1911.

891.276.127/65

Professor Mitchell Carroll,
General Secretary of the Archaeological
Institute of America,
The Octagon, Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the recent murder of Mr. DeCou at Cyrene and the efforts being made to secure the arrest and punishment of the murderers, the Department informs you that on April 29th instructions were cabled to Mr. James Oliver Laing, the American Consul at Malta, to accompany Mr. Allison Armour on the latter's yacht and discreetly to assist in the investigations at Cyrene and vicinity regarding the DeCou murder, reporting in full to the Department as well as to the Embassy at Constantinople. Mr. Laing's visit to this Ottoman territory will, of course, be of an ~~unofficial~~ character, but it is hoped that he can be of assistance in the investigation of this incident.

The Department has also cabled Minister Carter at Constantinople,

Constantinople, advising him of the instructions sent to Consul Laing, and requesting him to inform the Sublime Porte of this matter and to ask that such facilities be extended to Mr. Laing by the Benghazi authorities as are proper under the circumstances.

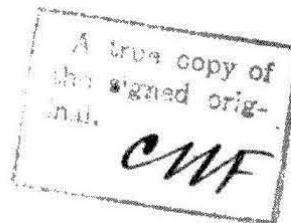
I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

867 N 927/65

3 F.D.



W

May 1, 1911.

62/286 m298

The Honorable Winthrop Murray Crane,

United States Senate,

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the recent murder of Mr. DeCou at Cyrene and the efforts being made to secure the arrest and punishment of the murderers, I have the honor to state for your information that on April 29th the Department instructed Mr. James Oliver Laing, the American Consul at Malta, to accompany Mr. Allison Armour on the latter's yacht and discreetly to assist in the investigations at Cyrene and vicinity regarding the DeCou murder, reporting in full to the Department as well as to the Embassy at Constantinople. Mr. Laing's visit to this Ottoman territory will, of course, be of an unofficial character, but it is hoped that he can be of assistance in the investigation of this incident.

The Department

The Department has also cabled Minister Carter at Constantinople, advising him of the instructions sent to Consul Laing, and requesting him to inform the Sublime Porte of this matter and to ask that such facilities be extended to Mr. Laing by the Bengazi authorities as are proper under the circumstances.

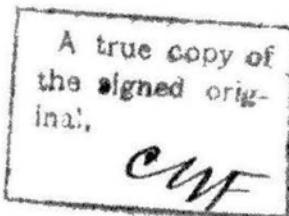
I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

867 M 927/65

3 P/MF



W

867m. 92765

May 1, 1911.

The Honorable Henry Cabot Lodge,
United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the recent murder of Mr. DeCou at Cyrene and the efforts being made to secure the arrest and punishment of the murderers, I have the honor to state for your information that on April 29th the Department instructed Mr. James Oliver Laing, the American Consul at Malta, to accompany Mr. Allison Armour on the latter's yacht and discreetly to assist in the investigations at Cyrene and vicinity regarding the DeCou murder, reporting in full to the Department as well as to the Embassy at Constantinople. Mr. Laing's visit to this Ottoman territory will, of course, be of an unofficial character, but it is hoped that he can be of assistance in the investigation of this incident.

The Department

The Department has also cabled Minister Carter at Constantinople, advising him of the instructions sent to Consul Laing, and requesting him to inform the Sublime Porte of this matter and to ask that such facilities be extended to Mr. Laing by the Bengazi authorities as are proper under the circumstances.

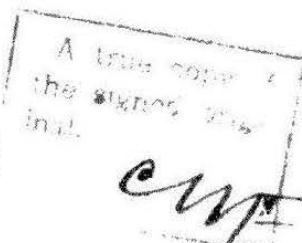
I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

867 N 927/65

3 P/P1 *✓*



W

May 1, 1911.

867m. 927
65

The Honorable William Alden Smith,

United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the recent murder of Mr. DeCou at Cyrene and the efforts being made to secure the arrest and punishment of the murderers. I have the honor to state for your information that on April 29th the Department instructed Mr. James Oliver Laing, the American Consul at Malta, to accompany Mr. Allison Armour on the latter's yacht and discreetly to assist in the investigations at Cyrene and vicinity regarding the DeCou murder, reporting in full to the Department as well as to the Embassy at Constantinople. Mr. Laing's visit to this Ottoman territory will, of course, be of an unofficial character, but it is hoped that he can be of assistance in the investigation of this incident.

The Department

The Department has also cabled Minister Carter at Constantinople, advising him of the instructions sent to Consul Laing, and requesting him to inform the Sublime Porte of this matter and to ask that such facilities be extended to Mr. Laing by the Bengazi authorities as are proper under the circumstances.

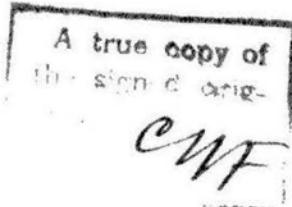
I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

867 M 927/65

3 F/P1 *F*



W

May 1, 1911.

867m-927
65

The Honorable Charles E. Townsend,
United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the recent murder of Mr. DeCon at Cyrene and the efforts being made to secure the arrest and punishment of the murderers, I have the honor to state for your information that on April 29th the Department instructed Mr. James Oliver Laing, the American Consul at Malta, to accompany Mr. Allison Armour on the latter's yacht and discreetly to assist in the investigations at Cyrene and vicinity regarding the DeCon murder, reporting in full to the Department as well as to the Embassy at Constantinople. Mr. Laing's visit to this Ottoman territory will, of course, be of an unofficial character, but it is hoped that he can be of assistance in the investigation of this incident.

The Department has also cabled Minister Carter at Constantinople, advising him of the instructions sent to Consul Laing, and requesting him to inform the Sublime

Porte

Porte of this matter and to ask that such facilities be extended to Mr. Laing by the Benghasi authorities as are proper under the circumstances.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

667 N 927/65

3 *TP*

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

CWE

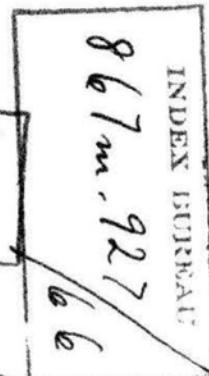
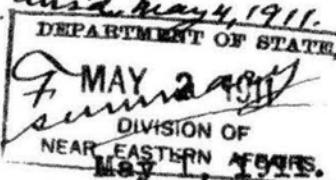


HENRY CABOT LODGE
CHAIRMAN

3 W

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION,
WASHINGTON, D.C.



My dear Mr. Knox:-

I enclose a letter which I have just received from Mr. Lane and also a copy of a letter from Mr. Norton addressed to the head of the Boston Museum. I am glad to learn that one of the murderers has been arrested and I hope that the other, whose whereabouts are known, may soon be arrested also. It seems to me we ought to press this matter upon the attention of the Turkish Government because it is very important, not only in the interest of science but in the interest of the safety of American citizens and respect for our flag, that the expedition should be able to return next autumn. I should think that at that time we might be able to send a ship there and the appearance of an American man-of-war would probably make everything right.

Very truly yours,

H.C. Lodge

Hon. P. C. Knox,

Secretary of State.

(Copy-P1)

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

BOSTON, MASS.

April 28, 1911.

Dear Senator Lodge:

I have received a cable from Mr. Allison V. Armour, dated Malta. From this I infer that the members of our expedition have now left Cyrene and that they are with Mr. Armour in his yacht.

Mr. Armour cables that the result of the expedition is beyond expectation. He thinks that for every reason the expedition should be continued next season.

If the expedition is to continue this work, which means so much for American scholarship, it is of the very greatest importance that the murderers of Mr. DeCou should be punished. The fact that the results of the expedition are beyond expectation makes it even more desirable that the State Department should insist upon action by Turkey.

Yours faithfully,

GARDINER M. LANE.

Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge.

United States Senate,

Washington, D. C.

(Copy-Pl)

- Copy -

Cyrene.

March 31st, 1911.

To the chairman,

Cyrene Excavation Committee.

My dear Fairbanks:

The Report which I have to make of the work during the past month is affected throughout by the staggering blow we received by the murder on March 11th of my long-time colleague and most dear friend Herbert F. DeCou. I have already informed you of this by telegrams and letters so there is no need to repeat the details here. But for the sake of records it may be well to give a résumé of the affair and its subsequent developments. DeCou was shot by two Arabs, accompanied by a third, as he was about half way up the Acropolis on his way to the work on the morning of the 11th. The murderers were hidden behind a wall but were recognized as they ran away. Since then one of them has been caught and is in prison at Bengazi. The whereabouts of the other I have discovered by means of a spy I sent out shortly after the murder and he is now being sought for by soldiers. The insistent report at the time, the truth of which has been emphasized by all I have since learnt, was that the murderers, who belong to distant tribes, were sent here by Italians owing to the jealousy the latter bear us for our success in obtaining the iradé to excavate here. From what I hear it seems most likely that their desire was to kill me, the idea being that if they succeeded in doing so, our expedition would be broken up. Personally I feel very sure that they were instigated by Bernabéi, the Italian consul

at Bengazi

at Bengazi who dislikes me owing to the fact that he was officially rebuked by his Government last summer as a result of complaints I made regarding his interference with me when I was out here looking over the ground as a preliminary to the excavation. Whether his instigation of the crime can be proved so as to satisfy a jury I do not know but I think I have already given you and our Ambassador in Constantinople sufficient data to make representations to the Italian Foreign Office that the man ought to be removed.

Two days after the murder the Kaimakan of Derne (Mukbil Bey) arrived, accompanied with various other law and police officers and some fifty soldiers. He stayed here a week making inquiries but both his methods and his actions were inefficient in the extreme. My previous letters to you and the Ambassador in Constantinople contain the details on which I base this accusation. When he left he took away again the soldiers he had brought and we are now left with about sixty. This number is far below that which, from the beginning I have said was necessary and is considerably less than what Mr. Armour was promised when he was in Constantinople in January.

What action the Mutessarif of Bengazi, Murad Fuad, has taken I do not know for he has let me know nothing. I have, however, kept him informed of all I learnt and urged certain measures on him. I am reliably informed that Bernabei is with him continually and our Government ought to realize that Bernabei is a thoroughly unscrupulous man who will bring every pressure possible to bear on the Mutessarif to stop the inquiry. I also hear that Bernabei has promised the wives of the father of one of the murderers, who is in prison with the son, that he will

secure

secure the release of their husband very soon.

The general tone of the Arabs here about the murder has been very reassuring but it is plain that the easy way the Kaimakam acted and the fact that no ship has been sent here have made them believe that our Government does not consider the murder as a matter of great consequence. I have repeatedly told you and others that this country is absolutely untamed and in circumstances such as the pleasant the slow and orderly procedure of civilized lands has absolutely no effect on the natives.

We buried DeCou on the 12th and began work again the next day. There was absolutely no local reason to discontinue the work and I felt sure that when the Committee understood all the circumstances they would not wish me to stop the excavation. The Archaeological Institute would discredit itself were it to call a halt now. It must go on. The results already obtained justify the continuance and the sacrifice of DeCou's life demanded it.

(Signed) RICHARD NORTON.

May 4, 1911.

The Honorable Henry Cabot Lodge.

United States Senate.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, enclosing a letter from Mr. Gardiner M. Lane, of Boston, together with a copy of a letter from Mr. Norton to Mr. Fairbanks, of Boston, in further reference to the situation at Cyrene.

Careful note has been taken of the information contained in these letters, and the Department is continuing its efforts to secure the arrest and punishment of the murderers of Mr. DeGou and to afford proper protection to this expedition.

The letter from Mr. Lane, with its enclosure, is returned herewith.

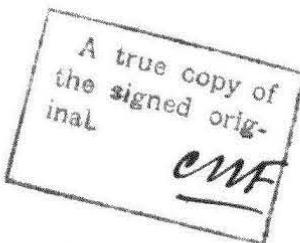
I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

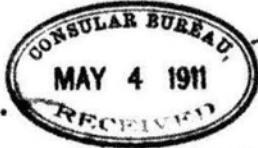
P. C. KNOX

Enclosure.

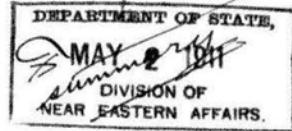
867 m. 927/66
3 F/P19



No. 33.

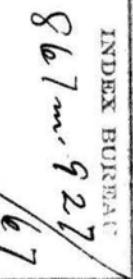


To 17
AMERICAN CONSULATE,



Tripoli-in-Barbary, N. Africa, April 14, 1911.

SUBJECT: Transmits extracts from a letter from Professor NORTON, re the murderers of Mr De Cou.



~~Confidential~~
THE HONORABLE

AS MAY 6 1911 SIR
THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

3 WASHINGTON.



FILED
JUL 31 1911

SIR:

I have the honor to enclose for your information, extracts from a letter received today from Professor Norton, writing from Cyrene under date April 2, 1911.

Extracts also forwarded to the Embassy at Constantinople.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. E. Saunders.

American Vice Consul in Charge.

ENCLOSURE:-

Extracts as stated.

EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER RECEIVED FROM PROFESSOR
NORTON AT CYRENE. DATED APRIL 2, 1911.

" The military arrangements here have been, since the start, wretched. There have never been sufficient soldiers to police the neighbourhood, notwithstanding my repeated requests for more. The quality of the rank and file has been very bad, but that of most of the officers has been worse. The Usbachi who took command just before the murder is the first really efficient officer we have had. I have heard nothing of the change of the Commandant at Derna. He certainly had not been changed ten days ago.

The names of the murderers are IBRAHIM BOU SOUEIL (already caught and in prison at Bengazi), and ENNAGHAS BOU ABD EL JELIL. The latter is still at liberty. From spies I have learnt where he probably is, and have notified the Governor at Bengazi, and also sent the Mudir from here yesterday with some soldiers and some of the Sheikhs to look for him among some tents about twelve hours away. The third man who was with the murderers is ALI WELED THIEFULLA EL ARIFI, and lives at ADRIANA near Bengazi. This I have also communicated to the Governor at Bengazi.

Mr De Cou was shot about 8 a.m. as he was on his way to the work accompanied by the workmen who straggled along with him. The report that he was out shooting is an absolute fiction. The murderers were hidden behind a wall close to the path we take every day. The murderers came from a long distance, they own no land here, nor had they ever worked with us. The one and only report among the Arabs, both here and at Bengazi, is that they were instigated by Italians; the latter being jealous of our having obtained the right to dig here.

I have also secured the evidence of two Arabs who met the murderers shortly after the commission of the crime, and these witnesses swear the murderers said they had been hired by ITALIANS to do the deed. There is no doubt, I believe, that they are employed as shepherds by Italians. There also seems no doubt that they wanted to shoot me. Personally I believe the Italian Consul at Bengazi, Sig: BERNABEI is at the bottom of the affair.

He is, I hear, on good authority, exerting his influence on behalf of the prisoners. I beg you to let me know any reports you may hear which may help me to clear up this matter.

It is a great pity none of our navy could have been here.

----- At present there are about 60 soldiers here, though in January Mr A.V. Amour, the head of the committee in charge of the excavation was promised 100. He was in Constantinople at the time.

Please present my respects to H. E. the Governor, and believe me,

Yours truly,
(signed) Richard Norton."

American Consulate.

Tripoli-in-Barbary, N. Africa.

April 14, 1911.

YACHT UTOWANA

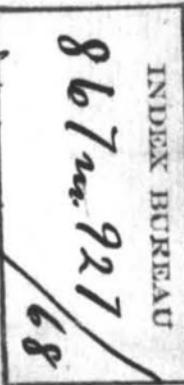
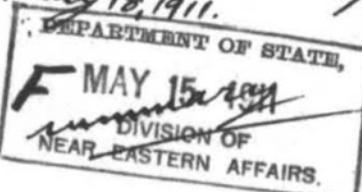


Malta, 29. April 1911

3W

To the Hon. P. C. Knox
Secretary of State

was brought. File



Mr. Secretary

In reply to my telegram
of yesterday. I receive today the reply
"Yes Laing instructed" indicating
that my request has been granted -
for which I am duly grateful.

I have just returned from
Cyrene, where the local conditions
are excellent. The party excavating
there is well protected and the Arabs
seem most friendly.

On May first I go back to get
Mr. Norton, the head of the party and
with him visit the Governor at

JUL 8 1911
FILED

27

YACHT UTOWANA

Bengazi and Mr. James the British Consul, who always has unofficially and is now officially looking after the interests of the Lyman Expedition, to find out why the murderers of Mr. DeCan whose names and present whereabouts are known, still remain at large. It occurred to me that Consul Laing, who has had much experience in North Africa and other Near-Oriental countries, might be a very valuable companion, hence the request for his services.

I am more than ever convinced that intrigue of Europeans was the cause of the tragedy and the many annoyances which have beset the expedition from the beginning. Even here in Malta the remain that

3.

YACHT UTOWANA

Italians have been trying to force
our party out of Cyrenaica, is quite
openly spoken of. Major Gogarty, an
officer who is connected with the
intelligence department of the British
War Office and who reports on
matters Tripolitan, spoke quite
fully about the matter today -

I beg leave to ask that the
accounts of the tragedy as furnished
to the State Department by the Italian
Foreign office and Mr. Norton be
carefully compared - The former
account is wrong in every respect.
The plausible paragraph about the
immediate despatch of a physician
from Derna, etc. is amusing.
It is not stated that his services

YACHT UTOWANA

were requested by Mr. Norton several days before the murder, owing to serious illness of the physician connected with the party and that he did not arrive until five days after the tragedy -

After the visit to Bungayi - and return to Malta, to leave Mr. Laird, I intend to proceed to Constantinople with Mr. Norton to discuss with the Ottoman officials the future of our undertaking and to urge upon Hakkı Pasha and Rifaat Pasha, with both of whom I have personal relationships, the necessity of more energetic methods in connection with the murderers -

It was a matter of great

5.
YACHT UTOWANA

satisfactorily to notice, during my recent visit to Cyrene, the very friendly attitude of the Arabs, both high and low, towards Mr. Norton. By tact and patience he has won their confidence and also the material benefits accruing through the distribution of wages is having great effect.

Again thanking you, sir, for countenancing so favorably my request-

I am the Secretary, with every expression of esteem

I am very faithfully
Allison V. Arman

No. 208.

May 18, 1911.

The Honorable

John G. A. Leishman,

American Ambassador,

Rome.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the Cyrene incident, I enclose herewith, for your information and for the files of the Embassy, a copy of a letter from Mr. Allison V. Armour, written at Malta on April 29th, reporting further regarding the situation at Cyrene and the plans of the expedition.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

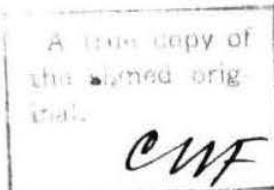
P. C. KNOX

Enclosure:

From Allison V. Armour,
April 29, 1911.

867 m. 927/68

3 F/Ply.



No. 347.

May 18, 1911.

John R. Carter, Esquire,

Minister Plenipotentiary in temporary charge of
American Embassy, Constantinople.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the Cyrene incident, I enclose herewith, for your information and for the files of the Embassy, a copy of a letter from Mr. Allison V. Armour, written at Malta on April 29th, reporting further regarding the situation at Cyrene and the plans of the expedition.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

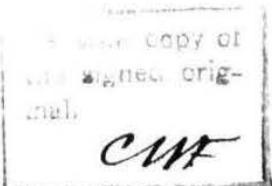
P. C. KNOX

Enclosure:

From Allison V. Armour.
April 29, 1911.

867 m. 927/68

3 F/Pl Y.



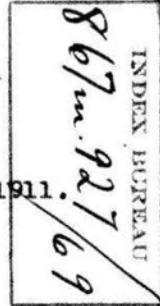
No. 34.



Actd. May 19, 1911.
TO 17 3 W
F MAY 16 1911
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
MID-EASTERN AFFAIRS

AMERICAN CONSULATE,

Tripoli-in-Barbary, N. Africa, April 29, 1911.



*Pinned
Bis*
SUBJECT: Transmitting Extracts from letters from Professor NORTON at Cyrene, also translation of a Report by the Officer sent to Benghazi by the Vali, and now returned.

JUL 31 1911
FILED

T. 3 FILE
CWF

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to submit for your information, extracts from letters received yesterday from Professor Norton at Cyrene, dated 11th and 12th instant.

Also please find the translation of a Report to the local Government by the military officer lately sent to Benghazi to make an investigation respecting the murder of Mr De Cou of the American Excavation Expedition at Cyrene.

I am forwarding copies of the enclosed to the Embassy at Constantinople by today's mail.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. Saunders.
American Vice Consul in Charge.

ENCLOSURES:-

Extracts from letters from Cyrene.
Translation of a Report.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED FROM PROFESSOR NORTON
AT CYRENE, DATED APRIL 11th & 12th, 1911.

CYRENE April 11/11.

"There can be no doubt however, that the delay in capturing and punishing the murderers has been very prejudicial to our interests and our reputation among the natives. Whether this can be counteracted by the severity and manner of punishment of the criminals when they are caught, remains to be seen. Something could be done I do not doubt, and personally I should advise long terms of imprisonment and heavy fines for several persons who have sheltered and helped the murderers; and the hanging of the latter here on the spot where they committed the crime. The natives of this region have absolutely no understanding of what we call justice, and it would be folly to treat them as though they had. Force is all they understand or respect. Among the accomplices I have spoken of above who ought to be severely treated are HAMID EL GURT (now in prison in Derna) with whom the murderers stayed just before the murder and ALI OBEYDY the Mudir of Gobba. The latter when in accordance with orders from the Mutessarif, HADJ SONAA, the Mudir here, went to arrest one of the murderers who was thought to be in the district controlled by ALI OBEYDY, the latter did everything possible to enable the man to escape, even calling on the Arabs to shoot HADJ SONAA and the soldiers, and making such a disturbance that the natives were alarmed before their tents could be searched. He also spoke threateningly against us. The Mutessarif has already degraded him and sent him down to HANNIA a settlement on the coast, a few hours from here. This is however by no means a heavy enough penalty. There does not seem to me to be any dissatisfaction with us among the natives in CYRENE. They realize that it is to their advantage to have us here, and they have learned that our work in no way interferes with them. The natives in the Hinterland are, however, against us, partly because they get none of our money, partly because of ITALIAN influence, and partly because of ignorance and fanaticism. It is the greatest pity no battleship has been sent here. Its presence would have had a very quieting effect on all the natives, and I still hope you may manage to get one here.

CYRENE April 12/11.

" I add a note to give you a little news I have heard since yesterday. Last night a man named KSER BOU FILFIL came to me and said he had just come from SRATEN, some hours distant where he had seen IBRAHIM BOU SOUEL (one of the murderers), and his brother SAAD and that they were living with the AIT HAMID. I took this man to see the Mudir to whom he repeated his story. We have sent him back today to make sure the murderer is still there. If he is the Mudir will go after him. The Mudir here was told that an Arab had seen IBRAHIM BOU SOUEL three or four days ago at MERDJ. The conditions here seem to me extraordinary. It is absolutely certain the murderers have been between here and BENGAZI ever since the murder. They are allowed to wander freely about the country threatening, and apparently nothing is done to catch them. If the Ottoman Government will do nothing, it is time our Government knew it."

American Consulate.
Tripoli-in-Barbary, N. Africa.
April 29th 1911.

T R A N S L A T I O N.

The murderers of the American citizen at Cyrene are two Arabs, one of whom is a shepherd in the service of a very influential man at Benghazi. Both murderers are well known by the local Authorities of that province. Two servants of the Americans testify that on the day of the murder, they saw these two men walking about near to the place where the crime was committed, but they were not witnesses of the actual shooting. They state the two Arabs were never before in the place where the crime was committed, which was six days journey from Benghazi, whereas the village they belong to is but two days distance from Benghazi.

The Imperial Ottoman Procurator at Benghazi, after an investigation, is of opinion that the crime was not due to a dispute about ground, or to vengeance, as reported by the Italian newspapers.

The murderers are now being protected by the powerful and very influential tribe called the "SENUSSIS". This tribe has in the district of Benghazi, thirtyseven "Tekie", (places where they meet to pray, discuss, and decide upon questions of any importance) The Senussis declare that they will not hand over the culprits for justice to any authorities whatever.

The Benghazi authorities are utterly powerless to demand the surrender of these men from the Senussis.

The Commandante of the Gendarmerie, AHMED BEY, is of the same opinion as the MUTESSARIF of Benghazi; to the effect that the day the murderers find themselves seriously pursued, they will pass the frontier to tribes which do not owe allegiance to Turkey. The Ottoman Authorities at Benghazi believe that the SENUSSIS were the instigators of this murder. Christians, and Europeans in general are much hated by the Senussis.

The authorities at Benghazi, knowing well the murderers and the place where they are hiding, confess their inability to seure their arrest, fearing the vengeance of the formidable tribe of the Senussis.

American Consulate.

Tripoli-in-Barbary, N. Africa.

April 29, 1911.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

867 m. 927/70 May 18, 1911.

FILE

Memorandum. N. E. Y.

In accordance with the Secretary's direction, Mr. Young called at the Capitol today to discuss this matter with Senator Smith. Mr. Young suggested, in view of the fact that the Department was daily expecting cabled reports concerning the recent visit of Consul Laing and Mr. Armour to Cyrene, that the resolution be withheld for the present. Mr. Young arranged for Mr. Hoppin, a member of the expedition, who is now in this city, to call on Senator Smith and give him detailed information regarding the murder of Mr. DeCou and the situation at Cyrene.

After a further discussion of the matter Senator Smith agreed to withhold the resolution for the present.

E.E.Y.

WILLIAM ALDEN SMITH, CHAIRMAN.
STE NELSON ROBERT L. OWEN.
HENRY E. BURNHAM. GEORGE E. CHAMBERLAIN.
NORRIS BROWN. BENJAMIN F. SHIVELY.
JOSEPH L. BRISTOW. CHARLES F. JOHNSON.
GEORGE P. MCLEAN. GILBERT M. HITCHCOCK.
HENRY F. LIPPITT.

M. C. HUGGETT, CLERK.
W. M. MCKINNISTRY, ASSISTANT CLERK

360
COMMITTEE ON TERRITORIES
UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON.

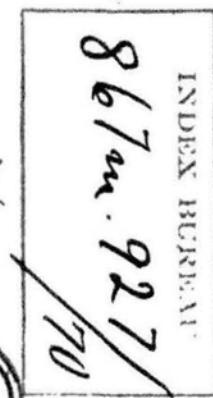
MAY 19 1911

NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

INDEX BUREAU

MAY
17
1911
DEPT. OF STATE

May sixteenth, 1911.



Hon. Philander C. Knox,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:—

When I last visited your office,

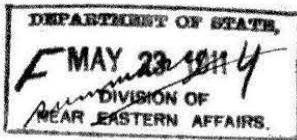
I indicated my intention to present a resolution to the Senate, calling for information regarding the De Cou murder at Cyrene, Turkey. I am strongly impressed with the idea that the circumstances surrounding this murder and the course of the State Department should be made public and simply write to say that I hope that this course will not be objectionable to you.

With great respect, I am

Yours very truly,

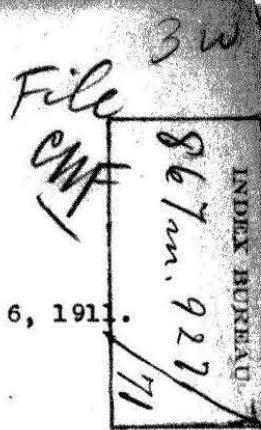
MAY 19 1911
FILED

No. 35.



AMERICAN CONSULATE,

Tripoli-in-Barbary, N. Africa, May 6, 1911.



SUBJECT: THE MURDER OF MR DE COU.

JUL 29 1911
FILED

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Department's No. 15. of April 14, 1911, with the enclosure of part of a despatch from the Embassy at Constantinople with respect to the murder at Cyrene.

Since the dispatch of my No. 34. of the 29th ultimo; there has been no further news from Professor Norton respecting the arrest of the assassins; it is therefore to be concluded that they are still at large.

Notwithstanding the assurances of the Turkish Government, that they "will rigorously pursue the investigation of this affair"; I take the liberty to put on record my firm conviction that it is utterly futile for the American Government to rely upon pacific assurances from the Sublime Porte, with regard to arresting and bringing to trial these two murderers.

Unless absolutely obliged by a show of force to

do

do so, the Ottoman Government will never seriously lend their aid to convict a Mussulman for an indignity upon a Christian; especially if the offence be one of murder, and the penalty death.

I respectfully therefore, urge strongly the need of the presence of a battleship on this Coast, as being the only effective means of bringing pressure to bear upon the Turkish Government with a view of securing the arrest of the culprits.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,


A.E. Saunders
American Vice Consul in Charge

T.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

PLAIN

3 w



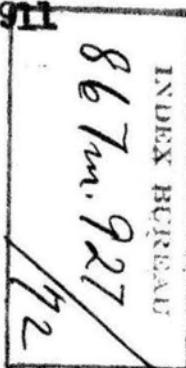
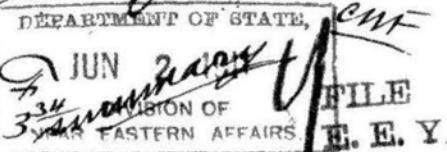
From Malta,

Undated.

Rec'd 2:15 p.m., June 2, 1911

Substance to Prof Carroll

Cyclone June 2, 1911



The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Twenty page report mailed Washington and Constantinople. Should arrive Washington in ten days from today. Cause delay, sickness. Report confidential. Could not trust to other person. If Department desires will wire outline of suggestions. Suggest if Department can wait would be better. Report full of detail.

L A I N G

Journey to Cyrene - Micou murder

deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

INDEX BUREAU
JUN 3 1911
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
THE WHITE HOUSE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

JUN 6 1911

DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

WASHINGTON

Secretary of State,

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
MAY 2 1911
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

MAY 2 1911
Apr 29, 1911.

File
E.E.Y.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

By direction of the President I send you
for personal comment and return the accompany-
ing correspondence from Senator Lodge.

Very truly yours,

Charles H. Mills

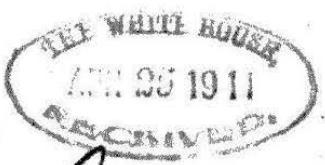
Secretary to the President

JUN 8 1911
FILED

Hon. P. C. Knox,
Secretary of State.

Enclosures.

UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE PHILIPPINES



April 24, 1911.

My dear Mr. President:-

As you take so much interest in the matter, I venture to enclose to you a letter from Mr. Lane, together with copies of letters which have been received from Mr. Norton and which I think are very interesting. It seems to me that we ought to insist upon the arrest and punishment of the murderers and merely as a matter of national dignity and self-preservation make sure that the expedition returns in the Autumn and is properly treated. May I also call your attention to what Mr. Norton says about the Italian Consul?

I should be glad if the Secretary of State could also examine these letters. It seems to me that we might well send a cruiser there in the Autumn as I trust that long before that time the Mexican complication will be out of the way.

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect,

Very truly yours,

H. C. Lodge

To the President.

44, STATE STREET,
BOSTON.

April 22, 1911.

Dear Senator Lodge:

Enclosed I send you copy of a letter from Richard Norton to Professor Kelsey, dated March 29th. This is an interesting letter, and you will be glad to see it.

You will notice that Mr. Norton is very anxious that the work at Cyrene should be continued because it promises so much. Would it not be possible, when work begins some months from now, to send to Cyrene, when our expedition arrives, or shortly after, one of our cruisers simply to let the people see that the United States Government will protect this expedition?

Norton's
You will notice from ~~this~~ letter that the murderers are still at large. I hope that the recent cables from the State Department will result in the Ottoman Government acting more effectively than it has thus far. If you wish to show the enclosed letter to the Secretary of State, please do so. I think he will be interested to see what Norton has to say about the Italian Consul.

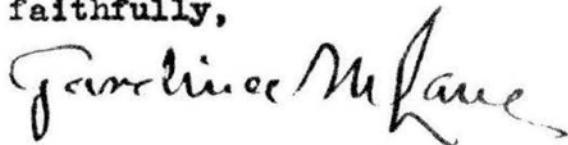
From what I learn from other sources, I do not feel that it would be safe for this expedition to return to Cyrene unless the murderers are punished. I hope that the State Department will keep this strongly in mind, even after our

expedition has left Cyrene for the summer. If during the summer the murderers are punished and if the Government will send a cruiser or man-of-war to the coast of Cyrene sometime after the expedition begins work again, I think our men will be safe.

In order that you may appreciate how difficult it is to communicate with Cyrene, I quote the following sentence from a letter of Richard Norton to Professor Kelsey, dated March 27th:

"I received your telegram on the 23d. You see we are very much cut off and yesterday came others from Mrs. DeCou, the Secretary of State, Lane and Loeb. The telegraph service here is absolutely wretched. Loeb's telegram was sent the 14th and reached Derna the 25th."

Yours faithfully,



Hon Henry Cabot Lodge,

Washington, D.C.

Enclosure

Please also read the enclosed copy of part of Norton's letter to Kelsey of March 27, 1911

C O P Y

Cyrene, March 29, 1911.

Dear Prof. Kelsey:

In order to save time I send you the following copy of part of a letter I wrote Armour yesterday. Please let the interested parties know the contents; - "I want to emphasize what I say in the cable I am sending you today to London that there is no reason to give up the excavation. The murderers are known and I have given their names to the authorities. Several members of their families are under arrest and I have no doubt the criminals will be caught soon. I yesterday found out who the third man, who acted as guide to them, was and am sending his name to the Mutessarref. All three are outsiders, and two of them are in the employ, as shepherds, of the Italians. There is not an atom of evidence that there was the slightest local influence in the crime. It is quite certain that I was the person who was meant to be shot, and I have not the slightest doubt Bernabei (Italian Consul at Bengazi) is at the root of the matter and that he sought to even up scores with me in this way. I believe the evidence we now have, and we will quite surely obtain more, will be sufficient to enable the State Department to ask Italy to punish him. There has not been the least local disturbance. I began the work again two days after the tragedy and it has gone far easier than ever before, - both the Sheikhs and the workmen, really trying to help. We have made some good finds and I yesterday settled the matter of the garden and shall begin digging there in two or three days.

"I know I have been thought by some to be rash but you may have absolute confidence that it is my calm and reasoned judgment to continue the work. You little know how deeply I loved and respected DeCou and bearing his loss in mind I once more assure you

that there is no reason to give up the excavation. In every work there are risks. It is not that those connected with this work are any greater than those connected with other occupations, but merely because they are of a more striking sort, they are apt to affect the imaginations of the people at home in an exaggerated way. We have already acquired results much larger than most excavations have produced the first year and we are on the threshold of still greater discoveries. The Institute knows the work ought to be done. If those of us who have had the patience to make it possible, and who are here on the spot, see no reason to stop I think we are justified in expecting the Institute and Committee to see us through and to enable us to make our final work worthy of our preliminary troubles and an enduring monument to the sacrifice which has been made. All the staff agree with me in this."

You will see by my next Report that what I say of our results is true. We shall of course need a larger staff and we ought to have more money to spend. I can only say that if the Institute gives up the work I shall apply for the irade in my own name and attempt to raise the funds myself. I cannot believe, however, that the Institute will fail either to find the funds or the men needed for the work.

With best regards,

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) RICHARD NORTON

Part of Letter from Richard Norton to Professor
Kelsey, dated Cyrene, March 27, 1911:

"There is little news to give you for I have heard nothing from Bengazi. The Kaimakam of Derna was here and was worse than useless as he refused to take the obviously necessary measures. I have protested strongly to the Ambassador in Constantinople and hope to see the Kaimakam removed. He ought to be. I know nothing of what measures the Ambassador or State Department have taken. I had hoped one of our navy might be sent here as that is the sort of thing the natives understand and it would have produced the best effect possible. You will see my letters to Fairbanks whom I shall keep posted. The work goes well but we are fearfully shorthanded. We had made some good finds ~~these~~ last weeks and I have gained the victory in the question of the gardens having arranged to dig the one where the terra cottas are found."

- - - -

INDEX BUREAU
JUN 3 1911
DEPT. OF STATE

Division of Near Eastern Affairs.

FILE
E. E. Y.

May 3, 1911.

(Murder of Mr. DeCou and situation at Cyrene)

Mr. Secretary:

The points mentioned in Senator Lodge's letter to the President appear to be four in number:

1. Arrest and punishment of the murderers of Mr. DeCou;
2. Providing for the return of the expedition to Cyrene next autumn;
3. Investigation of part played by the Italian Consul at Bengazi in this matter;
4. The despatch of a naval vessel to this vicinity next autumn.

In the absence of Mr. Young, I have the honor respectfully to submit the following comments regarding the points enumerated above.

867m. 927
173

JUN 3 1911
FILED

1. It appears evident from the reports of the Embassy at Constantinople that the Ottoman Government is keenly desirous of securing the arrest and punishment of the murderers and thus to prevent the expedition from abandoning its work and departing from Cyrene. On April 17th Minister Carter cabled that further peremptory instructions had been sent by the Porte to the Governor at Bengazi in line with the Embassy's recommendations, and that a telegram from Mr. Norton at Cyrene stated that the Governor was doing all he could but that he had been as yet unable to effect the arrest of the murderers. Letters from Mr. Norton March 31st to Mr. Fairbanks, of Boston, and April 2nd to the American Consulate at Tripoli, mention the arrest and imprisonment of one of the murderers, but the later telegram reported by Mr. Carter on April 17th would seem to indicate that the murderers were still at large on that date.

I think the Department can rest assured that the Ottoman authorities, under the constant pressure of our Embassy and of the members of the expedition, will honestly endeavor to apprehend and punish the Arab tribesmen guilty of the murder.

2. Concerning

2. Concerning the second point: namely, the return of the expedition to Cyrene next autumn, there appears at present no sufficient reason for believing that the expedition should not so return, and I trust that it will go back to Cyrene when the proper season arrives. Reports from Constantinople and from Cyrene have stated, frequently and unqualifiedly, that the local conditions at Cyrene are satisfactory, and that there appears to be no local antagonism to this American party or its work of excavation. Of course, if the murderers should escape adequate punishment the reputation and prestige of the American party would suffer tremendously, and any natives who are ill-disposed, of themselves or through outside influences, would feel encouraged to commit further outrages. Much will then depend upon the effectiveness of the present attempt to punish the murderers, and until this is settled a definite decision cannot be made concerning the question of resuming the work next autumn.

3. The question of Italian instigation of this murder, or Italian efforts to do harm to this expedition and force it to leave Cyrene, is of course a very delicate matter. As is well known, Italy considers the Ottoman territory in North Africa west of Egypt as her special zone of influence, and this is a portion of Ottoman territory which Italy would doubtless claim as her share in case the Turkish Empire meets with such misfortunes and reverses as to cause it (or at least its non-Asiatic portions) to be broken up and divided among the Powers.

Mr. Norton and Mr. Armour report that they have repeatedly had reason to suspect that various Italian influences, official or non-official, were hostile to this American expedition and endeavoring to prevent, first, the granting of the concession, and later the success of the expedition. Mr. Armour was told as much by high Ottoman officials when in Constantinople in connection with securing the concession for these excavations, and interpellations in the Italian Parliament and the tone of the Italian press in frequent articles unmistakably indicate the Italian interest in all matters affecting Turkish North Africa, and suspicion of all foreign enterprises in these regions.

Messrs. Norton and Armour also feel justified in thinking that Mr. Bernabei, Italian Consul at Bengazi, is especially hostile to this expedition and has been active in causing difficulties for it. If Mr. Norton can secure concrete evidence implicating Mr. Bernabei in this murder, or even in the dissemination of false rumors concerning the expedition and in other ways arousing public hostility to the Americans, it might be proper to bring the matter to the official attention of the Italian Government. The

Department

Department has, however, not received as yet any information which would justify such complaint against this official. At the same time, it is very reasonable to presume that prominent Italians at Bengazi and Derna, with whom this Consul may or may not be directly associated, have carried on a determined campaign intended to harm and eventually drive away the Americans. I might add that the Ottoman Government is fully aware of the Italian attitude toward the Cyrene expedition and is very desirous of saving the expedition from being forced to leave its work, as this American party, established for some time at Cyrene, is of distinct use to the Ottoman Government in preventing Italian aggressions against Turkey's sovereign rights.

4. To send an American naval vessel to the Ottoman ports in North Africa would doubtless have excellent effect in proving to the inhabitants of the Bengazi Province that this expedition has the confidence and support of the United States Government. The practically lawless state of the Arabs in that section would make the coming of such a vessel a very significant event. Had there been an available vessel of our navy at some near-by port it might have been doubly useful to have it visit Bengazi very soon after the murder; but I believe there was no vessel nearer to Bengazi than our own Atlantic seaboard, and for various sufficient reasons, including the fact that the season for excavation was nigh over and the expedition would normally leave Cyrene about May 1st, such a vessel was not despatched by the President.

If events in other parts of the world permit, I think the Department could well recommend to the President that one of our vessels be ordered to visit south Mediterranean ports next autumn at a time coincident with the return of Mr. Norton and his party to Cyrene. If the murderers are meantime caught and punished, the coming of this vessel should enable the expedition to recommence operations under excellent auspices; if the murderers are not properly dealt with, the visit of such a vessel would seem almost absolutely necessary to prove the Government's interest in the expedition and to discourage further acts of violence.

On April 29th Mr. Laing, the American Consul at Malta, was instructed by cable to accompany Mr. Armour at the latter's invitation, to Cyrene, to assist unofficially in the investigation of this murder and to report fully to the Embassy and to the Department. At the same time Minister Carter was informed of the instructions given to
Consul

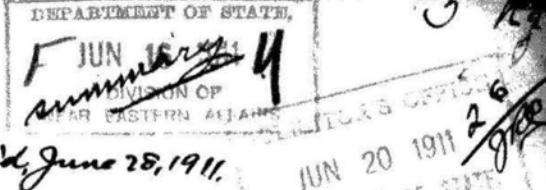
Consul Laing, and was requested to advise the Sublime Porte of Consul Laing's intended visit to Cyrene and to request that the Ottoman officials in the Bengazi Province be instructed to extend all proper facilities to Mr. Laing. It is possible that Mr. Laing's investigation and report will assist in securing the arrest and punishment of the murderers, and also may throw light upon the reported connection of Italian influences with this murder; and this will have bearing upon the questions of the return of the expedition next autumn and the possible sending of a United States naval vessel to North African waters.

Anxiously submitted.

C. W. Fowle.

CONFIDENTIAL.

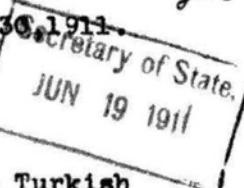
No. 39.



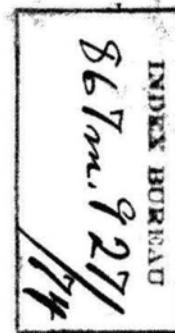
AMERICAN CONSULATE,

Tripoli-in-Barbary, N.Africa, May 30, 1911.

File
CMT



SUBJECT: Legal Proceedings by the Turkish
Authorities in re Murder of Pro-
fessor De Cou.



THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIR:

JUN 20 1911
FILED

I have the honor to report that, upon the invitation of the Precuratore Imperiale, yesterday, I attended a session of the Commission, appointed by the Criminal Court, to examine the evidence procured by the Turkish authorities in the judicial district of Derna and Benghazi, which had been ordered by the Department of Justice at Tripoli, which has jurisdiction over the whole of Tripelitania.

Said Commission, composed of three judges, acting in the nature of a grand jury, found from the report submitted to it, based upon affidavits filed therewith, that the death of Professor De Cou had been caused by a bullet wound, from a gun of the Gras make; that the assassins were two Arabs and that there were three accomplices, two of whom have been arrested; that the motive

for

for the crime alleged in said report, viz., a garden which was included in the ground covered under the concession granted by the Ottoman Government to the American Expedition and claimed by the assassins not to be part thereof, that said motive was not sufficient in view of the testimony directed against certain Italians as the instigators of said crime; and that therefore the Commission advised that the Italians in whose employ the assassins were engaged as shepherds, should be summoned before the proper authorities for the purpose of taking their testimony.

The Embassy has been notified in reference to the foregoing.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

John Z. Wood

American Consul.

No. 19.

June 28, 1911.

W
JL 26 m/78

John Q. Wood, Esquire,
American Consul,
Tripoli, North Africa.

Sir:

The Department has received your despatch No. 39, of May 30th, reporting the findings of the Ottoman commission which met the previous day to examine into the murder of Mr. DeCou, of the American archaeological expedition at Cyrene. It is especially noted that the commission suggests that the testimony of certain Italians be secured.

Your further report in reference to the proceedings of this commission is awaited with interest.

I am, Sir,

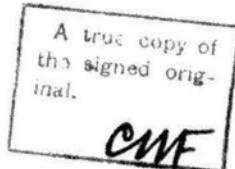
Your obedient servant,

For Mr. Knox:

Wilbur J. Carr.

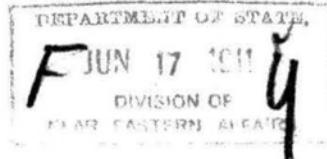
867m.927/74

3 T/Fy.





No. ~~~



3 gm.

FILE
N. E. Y.

AMERICAN CONSULATE,

Tripoli-in-Barbary, N. Africa, May 27, 1911.

SUBJECT: Protection of American expedition
at Cyrene.

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIR:

JUN 17 1911
FILED

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Department's No. 16 of the 26th ultimo and note its instruction about proper protection to the American expedition at Cyrene, which has ceased its excavation work during the summer months and expects to reassemble its members during the latter part of September.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

John T. Ward

American Consul.

3
DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR.

SD 21/11

Dear Captain:

Will talk
with you about this
any time that suits
your convenience.

JRC

No.



AMERICAN CONSULATE

Malta, June 1, 1911.

3 AM.

F. R. E. M.

SUBJECT: De Cou Murder.

SOLICITOR'S OFFICE
JUN 19 1911
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Read in 3 by
Prof Carroll,
June 24, 1911.

Secretary of State,
JUN 19 1911

INDEX NUMBER
8676.927/76

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIR:

Ans'd, July 7, 1911.
note to Italian
Emb., July 5, 1911.

File

I have the honor to report that at the request of Mr. Allison V. Armour, The Secretary of State granted me permission to leave the Malta consulate May 1 for a period of twelve days to accompany Mr. Armour unofficially to North Africa, to assist discreetly in securing information regarding the murder of Mr. De Cou and to report to the Department of State and to the American Ambassador in Constantinople.

After what Mr. Armour and Prof. Richard Norton, a member of the Cyrene expedition, have told me, I have thought it best to give the facts of the entire case from the beginning inasmuch as the reports they have made

were

JUL 21 1911
FILED

were necessarily presented at different times, in a number of documents and in several cases orally.

Mr. De Cou was killed by two Arabs near the excavations at Cyrene March 11, 1911, at about 8 o'clock in the morning. He was shot in the abdomen and higher up near the heart and died instantly. The two assassins were accompanied by a third man.

The names of the men who fired the shots are Ibrahim bou Soueil and Ennaghas bou Abd el Jelil. Both men belong to the Ait Shelmi tribe. The third man is Ali Ouled Difulla. He lives near Adriana, a town near Benghasi and belongs to the Ait Arifa tribe. The third man did not fire. It was believed at first that he was there as a guide and to point out Mr. Norton, the head of the expedition. It was probably Mr. Norton they wanted to kill. He was in the habit of going from the camp to the diggings in the morning with the workmen.

The night before the killing, Dr. Sladdon, the English physician with the party, was so ill that Mr. Norton had remained at his bedside most of the night and intended to sleep a little later than usual in the morning. In this way, Mr. De Cou went up the hill to the diggings with the Arab workmen instead of Mr. Norton.

Whether the murderers knew who their victim was and shot him knowing him to be another important member of the expedition or whether they mistook him for Mr. Norton is, of course, not known at present. The fact that Mr. Norton had always gone up the hill with the men in the morning seems to indicate that Mr. Norton was the man they went there to shoot.

On the other hand Mr. Norton and Mr. De Cou did not resemble each other so it may have been planned to kill any of the members who offered the best opportunity.

The theory that the third man was a guide only is not entirely carried out by the action of the two Arabs and both Mr. Allison V. Armour and Mr. Norton came to believe later that there was an equal chance of the third man being there to see that the killing had actually been done before the reward was paid.

The Turkish guard was not present when the shots were fired.

As to the guard at Cyrene, all the persons with whom I talked agree that it was inefficient, badly officered and too small. At the time of the murder it numbered about 50 men. Several of the officers were drunkards and one an epileptic. There were less than 10 mounted men and these were practically useless as their

horses

horses were sick. The soldiers were requested repeatedly to accompany Mr. De Cou and the workmen to the diggings in the morning but almost always arrived one half hour or longer after work had begun. On one occasion, Mr. Norton notified the soldiers that he was going to Derna and told them the hour he intended to start. They were not ready and could not be induced to get ready. Mr. Norton, who was in a hurry, left without them and they left an hour and a half later. They caught up to Mr. Norton eight hours after he left.

Mr. Norton complained repeatedly to the Turkish authorities about the conduct of the troops and the small number of men. The number at first was about 150, but they were sent away from time to time as escorts and did not return. Reductions began one month later. Mr. Norton protested verbally and wrote to the Kaimakam about it. He also telegraphed the Mutesserif in Benghasi and wrote to Salah el Mehdomi, head of the guard. He wrote also to the Mutesserif and several times to the Uzbashi. Mr. Norton tells me that at one time the Turkish government promised the American Ambassador in Constantinople to send soldiers, but when they arrived in Cyrene they were fewer than were promised the Ambassador.

From what everyone tells me I believe that a few well mounted, well officered troopers near the place where the murder was committed could have captured the murderers.

The murderers were actually seen at the time of the shooting and recognized by Hamid bou Shagluf, a workman present; Selim Houig, a nephew of the Mudir of Marsa Sousa, and by Athya bou Drilu, a local man. Many others saw the shooting and practically all are still near Cyrene as the workmen were from the vicinity. Hamid bou Shagluf at once told Mr. Norton who the men were as did Selim Homig. Athya bou Drilu reported the names of the men to Victor Camilleri, chief interpreter to the expedition. Thus is established a direct line of evidence to the murder and the murderers.

It is known that the men were hanging about Cyrene two or three days as they were seen before the murder by Hadj Ibrahim, a servant of the Mudir. They were at the fountain which the expedition was excavating. Hadj Ibrahim reported these facts after the murder to Mr. Norton and Camilleri. Hadj Ibrahim saw them plainly and gave details as to dress and appearance when reporting. This tallied with dress and appearance of the murderers at the time of the killing.

It is known also that the murderers were in the company of Bou Sneib, a laborer, who assisted them before the crime. There is no proof at present that he knew what was planned or was an accomplice before the act.

Abdul Krim el Serar bought a goat from them before the murder. There is also no proof that he is an accomplice

accomplice before the act.

All this evidence leaves no doubt as to the identity of the men.

In addition to these facts, a sheik brought in two men to Cyrene who testified before the Kaimakam, then in Cyrene, that they had met the two murderers the day of the murder and were told by them that they had just killed a Christian at Cyrene. The murderers also told the two men that they had been hired for 20 Napoleons by Italians to do the killing. The names of the two witnesses who testified to this are Abdullah bou Fleiss and Mjour bou Greim. The men were not to be found when I was at Marsa Sousa as they lived in the interior.

March 23, the Kaimakam arrested 3 men and sent them to Derna as prisoners. They were Mohammed, son of Sheik Bou Miriam, suspected of knowing about the killing, and a man named El Ourt and the latter's son. The murderers passed one night with the latter two when they were in the neighborhood just before the murder.

The two murderers were employed by Italians in connection with a cattle business which I was told by several persons in Benghasi including Mr. Le Lorrain, French consul, is controlled by the Banco di Roma, an Italian institution. After the murder, the assassins returned to their herds and in the first week in May were known to be at work in their old situations.

The matter has two phases although both are connected. The first has to do with Turkey and includes the responsibility of the Turkish government for the killing, the punishment of the men by the Turkish government and the protection for the expedition in the future. The second has to do with the alleged Italian instigation of the murder and includes the story of bribing the men to do the killing and the necessity of being free from further Italian persecutions in the future.

As to the first point there is no doubt of the killing or of the identity of the men, or of the fact that they returned to their work. The American expedition has knowledge of the latter point through a spy sent out by Mr. Norton and this spy's information is checked up by a spy sent out by Mr. Jones, British consul in Benghasi. The fact that the two murderers had gone back to their old places was commonly spoken about in Benghasi when I was there with Mr. Armour and the Mutesserif knew all about it in the talk which we (Mr. Armour, Mr. Norton, Mr. Jones and myself) had with him.

As to the means of taking and punishing the men, one thing crops up continually - the weakness of the Turkish government in the province of Benghasi.

I believe the Mutesserif would willingly take the men and have them punished if he could. He has private

enemies

enemies in Benghasi who are using this case to show the weakness of the Mutesserif. The Arab tribes also are at no time ruled by the Mutesserif as Turkish representative with any great thoroughness or with a very strong hand. The tribes preserve almost total freedom from Turkish interfereance in their tribal matters. They resent too much intrusion by the Turks.

The country inhabited by the Arab tribes who would oppose an attempt to take the murderers is rough and rapid movement even with cavalry is difficult. It also offers good opportunities for a protracted, rough guerrilla warfare and lends itself well to obstructive defensive tactics. In parts of it, water is scarce.

When asked plainly what force would be necessary to overcome the tribes in an attempt to get possession of the men, the Mutesserif said two regiments of cavalry with artillery. This is in addition to the men he has. As to the artillery, I am of the opinion that he could not use it against the tribes to any great advantage and that he added it to the wavalry for some reason other than its real usefulness against the tribes.

This matter of the troops and the use of force was brought up by the Mutesserif and not by one of our party. The Mutesserif plunged at once into the reasons for not having taken the murderers long ago.

A few men, he said, such as 20 or 25, sent to capture the murderers would be unsuccessful because the tribes had spies in Benghasi who would notify the tribes

and

and the men would be warned and would go deeper into the interior. Such an expedition would be useless, he said. There remained, he said, the alternative of a large expedition which would threaten the tribes themselves, which under the circumstances, could not be now undertaken.

"The circumstances" are, he intimated but did not mention by their real names, the Yemen war, and the trouble in Albania. Haidar Bey, the last commissioner appointed to remain with the party at Cyrene to watch the excavations, said quite openly that the Turkish government did not want to start another little war with the trouble on its hands which it now has. Haidar Bey was partly drunk when he made this remark. This view is supported by the British consul in Benghasi and the French consul in the same place. The latter two also add another reason. They say, speaking independently and not knowing, presumably, that the other had spoken of it, that the increasing difficulties which Young Turks are having and the opposition to the power of the committee, together with the unrest in Turkey has made the Turkish government backward in removing more troops from Constantinople. I am repeating this last matter as coming from the British and French consuls in Benghasi on their own responsibility, as all I know about it personally is from newspaper reports and from overhearing talk among Italians in Benghasi to whom I was a stranger. The interpreter of the expedition also brought me tales he had overheard in the native cafes which tallied with the stories of the consuls. These things apparently are quite openly spoken of and I

have

have no doubt that the spies of the tribes protecting the murderers are perfectly aware of the whole situation and that the Mutesserif knows all about it. At the end of the interview, in which Mr. Norton did most of the talking through the British consul as interpreter, I suggested to Mr. Norton to ask point blank what the Mutesserif's plan was for capturing the men.

I may say at this point that I have remained in the background in all the meetings and conversations in order to obey the order of the Secretary of State that I should act not only unofficially but "discreetly".

In reply to the question the Mutesserif unfolded the following plan: The men will be asked to come to Benghasi as witnesses in the investigation and will be told that the local Arabs of Cyrene will not testify against them. They will be given to understand that this will clear up the whole matter and that the strained situation will disappear.

Immediately upon the arrival of the men they will be seized and accused of murder. The American Embassy at Constantinople is to object to the judiciary of Benghasi as being unfit through impartiality to look into the case. The Mutesserif then promised that immediately upon receipt of this objection, he would say: "I wash my hands of the matter" and send the men to Constantinople for trial. This would bring the murderers into a court under the eye of the American Embassy in Constantinople.

The Mutesserif was anxious that it should be made clear in the Embassy's objection that he, the Mutesserif, was not objected to, but only the judiciary. When asked how long he would want to bring this about he said it could not possibly be done in less than two or three months and possibly longer. He wants to wait until the excitement of our being there has died down. Upon returning to the boat the entire party was of the belief that this plan was weak and that while there was always a chance that it would succeed, it had very weak points. One was that the murderers would certainly not go to Benghasi on the word of the Mutesserif without visiting or sending an agent to Cyrene to inquire into the change of views of the Cyrene Arabs. The latter are now friendly to the expedition and many more than are mentioned in the early part of this report saw the murderers. The Mudir of Cyrene is also friendly to the Americans.

A letter was written to four local sheiks by an unfriendly sheik threatening them and telling them that it would be to the advantage of all four if the expedition were forced to leave. Mr. Norton tells me he could not see that the threat altered the attitude of the local sheiks.

The general impression of the Mutesserif was that of powerlessness but cunning. I believe he would prefer to put some such plan into effect as he suggested and be rid of the responsibility.

If a sufficient force could be placed at the Mutesserif's command to take the tribes of the murderers prisoners, I believe the tribes would give the men up.

Even if the men escaped, the expedition could take the tribesmen prisoners and seize their flocks. This would be a punishment and is commonly done in this part of the world. The French and British consuls in Benghasi did not believe this could be done without troops being sent to the province from outside.

Much opposition would develop in case troops were sent to the interior to avenge the death of a Christian as this district is close to the headquarters of the Senussi. I do not know how to spell this name having never seen it in print but give it only as it sounds. The French consul furnished me with the following concerning the Senussi: It is a society of reactionary Mohammedans which is against any innovations in the religion and is opposed to letting down the bars to Christians or to new ideas in the religion. This society which is made up largely of Arabs was formerly very strongly opposed to the Turkish central government because the attitude of the rulers of religious matters was more liberal than the Senussis thought proper. The Turks arranged to receive in Turkey proper a number of young men who studied there and returned to North Africa. The influence of these men has been to subdue the ardent dislike of the Senussis, but has by no manner of means extinguished it.

The Senussis represent the old slave dealing, gun running, caravan attacking Arabs. Their power is gradually declining in a material way owing to the gradual

closing

closing of the routes and means of carrying out the above occupations, but the religious fanaticism and the desire to be let alone are still there. The Senussis are very numerous in the province of Benghasi and the French consul believes that the Mutesserif would encounter opposition in more places in Benghasi than in the immediate district where the offending tribes live.

As a further illustration of the influence of the Senussi and of the general anti-foreign and fanatical beliefs of the Arabs of Benghasi, the following story told me by the French consul is an example:

The local European residents wanted to have a Casino in Benghasi as no place of amusement of the kind existed. There was to be a cafe, singers, a roulette table etc. The Mutesserif, being a Young Turk and desiring to introduce European amusements into Benghasi, favored the plan. The Arabs ^{sawed} notice on the Mutesserif that if permission to erect the casino were not refused they would burn the building and destroy everything in it. Permission was refused.

Taking up the Italian side of the affair, the first notable thing is that at once everybody said the Italians were the instigators of the crime. This report flew all over Benghasi province and even to Malta. It was in Malta by the first boat from Benghasi which brought the news of the killing itself. The belief that Italians had been the instigators of the crime was openly talked of here

even

even before Mr. De Cou's name was known to a certainty and when the details of the crime were unknown. The first report was that Sicilians had bribed the Arabs because they believed that the expedition was about to secure rights to work sulphur deposits in Benghasi. As the Sicilian sulphur diggers are in a bad way owing the competition from the Louisiana sulphur beds, this was considered a "last straw". This rumor is still strong and is believed in Malta.

The Arabs at Cyrene said at once that Italians were behind the killing. They seemed to think it odd that anyone should doubt it. These Arabs know more about rumors spread by the Italians when the expedition first went to Cyrene and about what was told them then than they have reported. It is notable that at once before De Cou's body was in the house, the Arabs were saying among themselves that the Italians had had De Cou killed. I have this from the expedition's interpreter who was one of the first to reach De Cou's body.

Mr. Norton tells me that he felt the Italian pin pricks almost from the beginning. As soon as commenced work he began to be annoyed by unfriendly acts of the local natives. His house was shot into many times and he was abused by natives to his face. Inquiry proved that Italians had told the natives that the expedition wanted to acquire their land and drive them out. Another report was that the members of the exposition intended to entice away the Arab women. These reports were traced to Italians.

The Italian consul in Benghasi, Mr. Bernabie, was in Cyrene during Mr. Norton's absence and tried to buy land covered by the irade giving permission to excavate. Bernabie also tried to secure a map of the part of the country to be excavated under the irade. His desire to secure control of the land was known commonly among the Arabs. It is probable ^{that} most of the difficulty which the expedition had with the natives at first was owing to the false reports spread by the Italians. As time went on and the expedition paid good wages and treated the people fairly, the local Arabs became friendly. They understood then that the statements of the Italians were lies. It is notable that the men who did the killing were not local Arabs but came from a distance and returned at once after they had done the killing. It is also to be noted that they were employed to guard cattle owned by Italians and upon returning, were given their old places. The cattle company is backed financially by the Banco di Roma, an Italian bank used by the Italian government as a political agent in North Africa to assist in the pacific penetration of the country. Just what the connection ~~is~~ between the Banco di Roma and the cattle company is, I was unable to establish but all agree including the British and French consuls in Benghasi that the bank controls the company. As the identity of the murderers is common property in Benghasi, the bank is knowingly employing the murderer~~s~~. Bernabie, the Italian consul is hand-in-glove with ^{this} bank's officials and he must be in close touch with his government on business which the government believes to be

important

important as it pays about \$ 20 a day for cypher telegrams from Bernabie to the Italian foreign office. This latter information about the telegrams is from the French consul in Benghasi who in some way knows what goes on in the local telegraph office. The French consul is trusted by the British consul Mr. Jones who was present when this statement was made. In fact Mr. Jones met the spy he sent to locate the murderers by having him go to the French consulate and following him ^{then} later. We told the French consul nothing that was not public property. Bernabie is a Levantine, not an Italian, and speaks Arabic. He is very close to the sheiks of the hinterland Arabs. They stay at his house when in town and he meets them in his consulate from time to time where they have regular meeting^s of three or four sheiks at a time. His influence is great with them. This is agreed to by every one who expressed an opinion in Benghasi. Bernabie was the only consul in Benghasi who did not express his sympathy for the expedition at the loss of De Cou. The Italian archeological expedition ^{near} ~~in~~ Tokra did not express sympathy which would have been^a/most natural thing to do. It may be noted also that the two murderers came from near Tokra where the Italian archeological expedition is ^{stationed.} ~~at work~~. Mr. Norton who is an expert in archeology tells me that the head of the expedition is not a specialist in the kind of work found ^{near} ~~in~~ Tokra but in a totally different line of archeology. Mr. Norton believes that the Italian expedition has a political as well as a scientific object.

One incident will show the influence of

Bernabie

Bernabie. When the Kaimakan arrested several Arabs in connection with the case, it was reported among the Arabs that the relatives of the arrested men had appealed to the Italian consul to have them released. The probability that he could secure such release was not doubted by the natives. This shows what they believe his power to be.

Italian influence is strong in this part of North Africa. The Italians are conducting a campaign of pacific penetration which they do not want interfered with. The French consul gives the following line of reasoning with which the British consul agrees: The Italians believe that the American stay in Cyrene (expedition's) may cause members of the expedition or men interested in it, one at least of whom is known to be a wealthy man, (Mr. Armour) to become interested in the possibilities of the country. Other Americans might see opportunities and secure concessions to develop the country. With the great wealth of the Americans, operations might be undertaken which would give the United States an interest in the country. The Italians especially fear the effects of the wealth of the Americans on the Arabs. Italians do not care to allow any element to remain in the country which may develop into active commercial competition which would interfere with the pacific penetration of the country. Italians in Benghasi province are very jealous of any foreign competition and are almost fanatical. There seems to be a feeling in North Africa that Italy has failed elsewhere and must "hang on" to this part of the world. The Turks and the Arabs know what is going on and do not, as a rule, like the Italians.

The interest displayed by the Italians in the killing is illustrated by the actions of two Italian doctors. Dr. Sladden, the physician of the American expedition, was ill at the time of the murder. March 10, the day before the murder Dr. Sladden was so bad that Mr. Norton sent the interpreter Camilleri to Gaigab where there is a telegraph station which takes messages in Arabic or Turkish only. Camilleri speaks Arabic. He got Dr. Beson, the Italian doctor ~~on the wire~~, ^{in Derna}, Dr. Beson consulted with the Italian Vice Consul in Derna and promised to leave for Cyrene the next morning at dawn. This would have brought him to Cyrene that night or early next morning. On March 12, a telegram was received from Derna saying that he was ill and could not come. On March 20, Dr. Beson arrived in Cyrene. Between March 12 and March 20, a telegram had been sent to Dr. Beson telling him not to come as Dr. Sladden was better. When Dr. Beson arrived, Mr. Norton asked him whether or not he had received the telegram telling him not to come. Dr. Beson answered that he had received the message but "had come for another purpose". It will be remembered that Mr. De Cou had been killed March 11. Dr. Beson did not say what his other purpose was. He told Mr. Norton however, that the Italian Vice Consul in Derna, Mr. Sabetta, had received orders from the ministry in Rome to send him. The Kaimakam in Derna looked into the report of Dr. Beson's illness and says it is — that he was not ill. untrue, Dr. Beson stayed two days and appeared distinctly dissatisfied at the result of his mission. I talked to Dr. Beson in Derna. He is shifty-eyed and oily. I believe he is unscrupulous and a first class rascal. He asked Dr. Sladden

of the American expedition whether he (Beson) could get a place as physician for the expedition on its return as Dr. Sladden is not to go back to Cyrene. He was told "No".

Another Italian doctor attempted to reach Cyrene, but the boat could not land him and he never reached the place. He is Dr. Mai of Benghasi. No communication had been had with Benghasi asking for aid. The first that was known of Dr. Mai's departure was when the Kaimakam some days after the murder asked Mr. Norton if he knew why Mai was coming. The Kaimakam said the Mutesserif had told him to "keep his eye on him". Dr. Mai, who is an Italian, was sent to investigate. Mr. Jones, British consul in Benghasi, says the undertaking was distasteful to Dr. Mai.

I found no proof in North Africa or in questioning Mr. Armour or the members of the expedition that the Italian government knew that the murder was to be committed. It is hardly to be doubted that the Italian government knows that the two murderers are in the employ of the cattle company controlled by the Banco di Roma. I could find no evidence that Italian consuls or others in private life had taken the trouble to make any denials either that the government had anything to do with it or that Italians had been the instigators.

On the other hand the British consul in Benghasi; the French consul there; the Turkish commissioner at Cyrene; the council of Sheiks at Cyrene, Haidar Bay and the Kaimakam who heard evidence at Cyrene state plainly that they believe that Italians are guilty. The Mutesserif at Benghasi also gave us to understand that he believed it but spoke with caution

and

and circumlocutions so that it is difficult to put into writing what he said. The French consul, backed to a certain extent by the British consul, who did not care to commit himself too strongly before others, stated openly he believed that Bernabie was doing all in his power to protect the murderers. After hearing all that everyone had to say Mr. Norton, Mr. Armour and I agreed among ourselves that there is no doubt in our minds that Italians were the instigators of the crime, but direct proof is lacking except for the statements of the two Arabs mentioned before, which might be questioned by the Turkish government. From what everyone told me and from the fact that no one knew of any reason for the Arabs' lying, I believe they were telling the truth. We also agreed that Bernabie is doing all in his power to protect the murderers. Absolute proof of this, such as would be admitted by a court as direct evidence is, however, also lacking.

After hearing all the evidence that the different parties who could offer any evidence gave, I have come to the belief that, barring the success of the Mutesserif's plan which is not probable, the only way to capture the two murderers is to bring such pressure to bear up the Turkish government that it will give enough power to the Mutesserif to take whatever measures he believes necessary to arrest the murderers directly or to proceed against the tribes and force them to give up the murderers.

As regards the Italians, I believe the expedition will be harassed more or less by them as long as it remains

remains in Cyrene, because its very presence is distasteful to the Italian business interests and it will be viewed with suspicion by North African Italians no matter what the government in Rome thinkes of it. I believe, however, that if Italians in North Africa knew that the Italian government were really and earnestly against any further molestation of the expedition there would be no more serious trouble.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

James Oliver Lamp
Consul.

67m 927/76

Noted on Efficiency Records
DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

July 7, 1911.

To JT:

In accordance with permission granted by cable on April 29, 1911, Consul Laing, of Malta, accompanied Mr. Armour to Cyrene etc. to assist in investigating the murder of Mr. DeCou, an American archaeologist.

Mr. Laing's report, dated June 1, 1911, is an excellent one, and has been of great assistance to the Department.

We are today sending down for signature an instruction to Consul Laing, commanding his zeal in this matter and the care and precision evinced in the preparation of his report.

I would suggest that this be noted favorably on Consul Laing's efficiency record.

C.W.G.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

July 6, 1911.

Mr. Adeo
&
Mr. Wilson:

This note and enclosure to the Italian Embassy in regard to the DeCou case at Cyrene, prepared by Mr. Clark and this Division, was sent to the Secretary for his approval, and has just come back signed.

You will however doubtless desire to make note of it before it is sent out.

E.S.Y.

1911 - 3 1911

Dear Young.
I am very glad
to see this. It is true,
moderate in tone, and
withal convincing.

asb

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

July 5, 1911.

Mr. Secretary:

I respectfully submit herewith a note to the Italian Ambassador regarding the DeCou case, accompanied by a Memorandum compiled from Consul Laing's report and other sources. It seems desirable that some such statement of conditions at Cyrene be brought to the official attention of the Italian Government.

Mr. Clark and Mr. Young recommend that these be sent to the Italian Embassy.

c.w.g.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

July 5th

Dear Mr. Wilson:

This is the note about De Cou which I told you of last Sat. It has not yet been to Mr. Wilson or Mr. Adeo, as the Secretary is following this case personally.

c.w.g.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR.

July 1, 1921.

Dear Captain Young:-

I have indicated the words
to be inserted and have initialed
the note. It seems to me that
we may well send this note to
the Embassy under the special
circumstances of this case.

JRC/JHP.



Copied to Senator
Lodge, July 12, 1911.
C.W.G.

No. 139.

July 5, 1911.

867m. 92776

Excellency:

I have the honor to enclose herewith a Memorandum setting forth the facts and circumstances connected with the explorations at Cyrene, North Africa, by an American archaeological society, and the killing of one of the members of this expedition while engaged in his scientific researches. It is unnecessary to say that the Department does not for a moment give credence to any thought that the Italian Government has been aware of the existence of the feeling which obtains in Tripolitania with reference to the operations of this American expedition, nor does it believe that the Italian Government is cognizant of the attitude which has been assumed by its consular official in this matter. The Department feels, moreover, that the reports which

His Excellency

Eugenio Cusani Confalonieri,
Ambassador of Italy.

which have come to it must overstate the participation of
Italians in the difficulties which have from the first
been encountered by the American organization, and par-
ticularly as to the last manifestation of the ever present
hostility against such organization,- namely the cold-
blooded murder of one of the American citizens engaged
in prosecuting this work. The matter is brought to Your
Excellency's attention with all the details that have
come to the Department, merely in order that Your Excel-
lency may be better able fully to set forth to your Gov-
ernment the charges which are made by the interested
parties regarding general conditions in this particular
part of northern Africa.

In view of the facts and circumstances as set
forth, I feel, however, obliged to request of Your Ex-
cellency that your Government take such measures with
reference to its officials in northern Africa as will
facilitate rather than hinder the efforts of the Ottoman
authorities immediately to apprehend, try and punish the
murderers of Mr. DeGou.

I take occasion further to suggest to Your

Excellency

Excellency that in view of the undoubtedly (if the reports in the possession of the Department are at all to be believed) ill will of the Italian Consul Bernabei toward this American enterprise, a proper appreciation by the Italian Government of the highly valuable scientific researches and historical explorations undertaken by this American society as well as the actual personal safety and security of the American members of the exploring party would appear to require that prompt steps be taken by Your Excellency's Government to place in northern Africa such officials as will hereafter refrain from further augmenting or countenancing any hostility which may exist against American life and property in that region,- such officials, indeed, as will on the contrary use their utmost endeavors and influence to secure for the expedition and its members that assistance and protection to which their purely disinterested, philanthropic and scholarly motives clearly entitle them.

I take

I take this occasion to renew to Your Excellency

the assurance of my highest consideration.

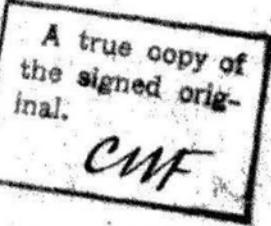
P. C. KNOC

Enclosure:

Communication, as above.

857m.927/76

□ 3
gRC



Memorandum.

From the information in the hands of the Department of State, the following appear to be the facts concerning the American archaeological expedition at Cyrene, North Africa, and the death of Mr. DeCou, a member of the American party:

The Archaeological Institute of America is an American organization with branches at various centers throughout the United States, composed of men and women interested in the advancement of the science of archaeology. Under the supervision of this Institute, excavations and other forms of archaeological research have at times been conducted at sundry sites in various parts of the world.

Some years ago, the Institute decided to undertake researches, if the necessary permission could be secured, at Cyrene, North Africa, - a place which has been known for many generations as one of great probable interest to archaeologists. With this object in view, representatives of the Institute were sent to Constantinople to comply with the prescribed formalities for securing the necessary permit of the Ottoman Government. From the very beginning of these efforts to secure this permission, the Americans were conscious of some foreign influence which was endeavoring to block their success, and Mr. Armour, one of the interested Americans, was confidentially told by a very high Ottoman official that he had no idea of the weight of foreign opposition which the Ottoman Government had to combat in granting the American request. That this opposition had its origin with certain Italians is the conviction of all

persons

persons acquainted with the facts and in touch with matters of this nature at Constantinople. The permit was however eventually secured, and preparations were commenced for the organization of the expedition and its work at Cyrene.

On visiting Tripolitania, the Americans were at once conscious of a feeling that some influence was at work to spread false statements regarding the Americans and to put every hardship in their way. False stories had been scattered broadcast among the Arab tribesmen, as also among the inhabitants of Benghazi and Derna, the more important towns in the vicinity. One of these was to the effect that the Americans intended to buy up the Arab lands and drive the tribesmen elsewhere; another, that the Americans planned to entice the Arab women away; still another, that the Americans had designs on the supposed mineral wealth of the region and intended to discover and exploit these under cover of scientific work. These rumors naturally spread fast and obtained credence among the simple minded inhabitants, creating a feeling of suspicion and hostility towards the Americans and their work, which greatly increased the difficulties of the preliminary labors of the expedition; but the direct hostility did not come only from the natives. It is well known that even after the Iradé authorizing the work was obtained by Mr. Norton, and he and his associates were preparing to organize their expedition and proceed to Cyrene, persistent efforts were made by Mr. Bernabei, the Italian Consul at Benghazi, to purchase portions of the land on this Cyrene site from the Arab owners, but fortunately the prior claim of the Americans prevailed. Subsequently Bernabei and other Italians secured a site at Tokra, where archaeological work has since been done by a party of Italians. But the hosti-

lity

hostility of Bernabei to the Americans did not cease, and he and those who were believed to be under his control and direction constantly did and said things calculated to cast suspicion and discredit upon the American expedition.

The suspicion and hostility of the Arabs, caused by the above intrigues, led to many annoyances of a more or less serious nature being inflicted upon the American party. In the early days of the work at Cyrene, shots were frequently fired at night into the houses of the Americans, and Mr. Norton's efforts to arrange for the purchase of the necessary land and the clearing of the site before excavation work could commence were met with much sullen and often open hostility from the Arabs. It was only by the exercise of much tact and consistent friendliness in all dealings with the Arabs, and prompt payment of their wages and considerateness as well as firmness in all their contact, that the Americans gradually overcame this suspicion and hostility, so that by early spring of the present year work was progressing very smoothly, and the members of the American party felt that their local standing was clearly established as friendly to the Arabs and intent only on the success of the scientific researches of the expedition. This was the situation in the early part of March 1911.

On the morning of March 11, 1911, at about 8 a.m., while Mr. Herbert F. DeCou, an American citizen and a member of the American party, was going from the quarters to the scene of the day's excavations, he was fired on by two Arabs, hidden behind an old wall near his path, and instantly killed. These Arabs were recognized by a number of the workmen accompanying Mr. DeCou, and their identity has since been well established from other sources. The murderers were Ibrahim bou Scueil, and Ennaghas bou Abd el Jelil, both belonging

to the

to the Ait Shelmi tribe. They were accompanied by a third Arab, Ali Ouled Difulla, who lives near Adriana, a town near Benghazi, and belongs to the Ait Arifa tribe. From the scene of the crime the assassins returned to their own region, in the vicinity of Tokra, and there resumed their work as shepherds. It is well established that these two Arabs have for some time past been employed as shepherds for herds of cattle belonging to some Italians and controlled by the Banca di Roma at Derna, and that they left their herds to go direct to Cyrene, some 75 miles distant, committed the crime, and then returned at once to their herds, where at last accounts they were still in their former Italian employ. Two other Arabs, about whom Mr. Norton wrote on March 24th, informed Mr. Norton that they met the two murderers on March 11th, and that these men boasted of having that day killed a Christian at Ain Shehat (Cyrene), and that they had been hired by Italians to commit the crime and were to receive twenty pounds for it. These reports of Italian instigation even extended to Malta, where the belief that Italians had caused the assassination gained general credence.

The efforts of Mr. Norton to secure the immediate arrest and punishment of the murderers, whose identity he at once made known to the proper Ottoman authorities, were unsuccessful, and Mr. Norton was confronted with the statement frequently made at Benghazi and Derna that the murderers would never be captured and punished, as they were protected by Mr. Bernabei. It is even persistently rumored that members of the families of the murderers have actually sought and found protection from Mr. Bernabei at the time when the Ottoman authorities throughout the region were endeavoring to locate and arrest all persons connected with the murder-

murderers or who might have knowledge of the motives of the crime. It is well known that the murderers now boast openly of their deed and scoff at the idea that they will ever be punished for it.

In connection with the fact that the Arab murderers were employed to tend the herds of cattle under the control of the Banca di Roma at Derna, it should be noted that a credit of money for Mr. Norton for the expenses of the expedition, cabled through London on March 15th to the Banca di Roma at Derna, was reported by that bank to have been received by them only on March 27th, after vigorous inquiries in the matter were begun by the Institute, the Department, and the American Embassy at Constantinople.

Several days after the crime, the Italian doctor at Derna arrived at Cyrene. He acknowledged that he had received Mr. Norton's letter stating that his services were no longer needed, but added that he had come "for other purposes". Another Italian physician, who in his solicitude for the Americans started by steamer from Tripoli, was only prevented from reaching Cyrene by the fact that weather conditions prevented the vessel's making the necessary stop to permit his debarkation.

Immediately after the crime, messages of regret and sympathy were received by the American expedition from all of the foreign consular corps in that region with the sole exception of the above-mentioned Bernabei; and it is likewise to be noted that no message was received from the Italians excavating at Tokra.

That the Ottoman authorities in the vicinity attribute the crime to instigation of certain Italians might be deduced from the fact that the commission sitting at Tripoli

to examine

to examine into the facts and motives of the crime decided at its first sitting to secure the attendance and evidence of certain Italians; but it is obviously improbable that the Turkish officials can secure the attendance of any Italians for this purpose unless pressure is brought upon them by their home Government. That the crime was committed with the knowledge and at the instigation of such Italians is the more or less openly expressed belief of certain prominent foreign officials in North Africa, the Ottoman Commissioner at Cyrene, the Council of Sheikhs at Cyrene, and the Kaimakam who heard the evidence at the preliminary hearings at Cyrene. The Mutessarif of Benghazi, while obviously unable to express himself officially upon this point, is also understood to be of the same opinion. It is noted, however, that Bernabei appears to be in very close touch with the Mutessarif, spending much time in his office during the days immediately following the crime, and this may account in part for the failure of the Ottoman officials to succeed in their efforts to secure the arrest of the murderers.

That Italian interest in matters at Cyrene is not confined solely to the Italians residing in North Africa is evidenced by the fact that members of the Italian Cabinet have, according to press reports, been frequently questioned in Parliament regarding the presence of the American expedition at Cyrene and its work and purpose there; and many Italians, both in public and in private life, appear to have suspicions as to the real purpose and goal of this expedition. That this is wholly free from suspicion, and has to do with nothing but the advancement of the science of archaeology by uncovering a few of the valuable reliques of the

past which are believed to lie hidden in that region, is unquestionably evident to all persons desirous of examining the plain facts of the case and the methods pursued. That some misapprehension exists in official quarters in Italy regarding the past and future of the expedition is shown by the statement recently made by the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs in the Italian Parliament, to the effect that he believed the expedition intended to withdraw because of the death of one of its number. The Archaeological Institute of America does not desire or intend to abandon the work already done and withdraw from this valuable archaeological site, but expects to continue the work with increased vigor.

Department of State,

June 27, 1911.

No.

July 7, 1911.

867m.927/76

James Oliver Daing, Esquire,
American Consul,
Malta.

Sir:

The Department has received and read with deep interest your unnumbered despatch of June 1, 1911, wherein you report in detail regarding the murder of Mr. DeCou and the situation at Cyrene before and after the crime, as ascertained in the course of your recent visit to North Africa in company with Mr. A. V. Armour.

The Department commends the zeal which you have displayed in this matter, and the care and precision evinced in the preparation of this report.

I am, Sir,

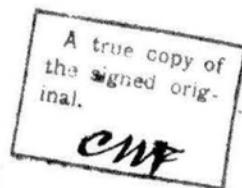
Your obedient servant,

For Mr. Knox:

Wilbur J. Carr.

867m.927/76

3 P.M. 7
JRC/HCH



No. 371.

July 7, 1911.

Confidential.

Hoffman Philip, Esquire,

American Chargé d'Affaires,
Constantinople.

81x:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the situation at Cyrene and the murder of Mr. DeGou of the American archaeological expedition, I enclose herewith, for your very confidential information, a copy of the note upon this subject addressed by the Department to the Italian Ambassador at Washington on the 5th instant, together with a copy of the Memorandum which accompanied this note.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

F. C. KNOX

Prologue:

To Italian Ambassador,
July 5, 1911, with
sub-enclosure.

867m.927/76

5 
gRC

A true tempo
but signed "Ag
tempo".

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

July 11, 1911.

Mr. Charles Wilson:

Is this satisfactory as a covering letter for Consul Laing's report and the note to the Italian Ambassador, copies of which the Secretary desires to have sent to Senator Lodge?

The enclosures are now being prepared.

L.W.L.

Confidential.

July 12, 1911.

W

867m.927/76

My dear Senator:

Referring to our conversation yesterday on the subject of the murder of Mr. DeCou and the situation at Cyrene, I enclose herewith, for your very confidential information, a copy of Consul Laing's report based on his recent visit to North Africa, together with copies of the note and its enclosure addressed by the Department on the 5th instant to the Italian Ambassador in this city.

With kindest regards, I remain, my dear Senator,

Very sincerely yours,

W. C. KNOX

Enclosures:

From Consul Laing, June 1, 1911;
To Italian Ambassador, July 5,
1911, with memorandum.

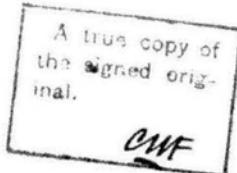
The Honorable

Henry Cabot Lodge,

United States Senate.

867m.927/76

/ 3 P.M.



No. 227.

July 7, 1911.

Confidential.

The Honorable

John G. A. Leishman,

American Ambassador,

Rome.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the situation at Cyrene and the murder of Mr. DeGou of the American archaeological expedition, I enclose herewith, for your very confidential information, a copy of the note upon this subject addressed by the Department to the Italian Ambassador at Washington on the 5th instant, together with a copy of the Memorandum which accompanied this note.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

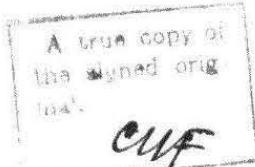
P. C. KNOX

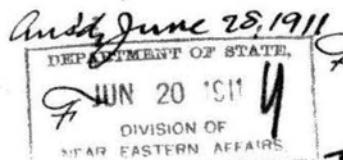
Enclosure:

To Italian Ambassador,
July 5, 1911, with
sub-enclosure.

867m.927/76

3 P.
grc





3 hr
File CWT
6/26/11
gbs

No. 40.

AMERICAN CONSULATE,

203

Tripoli-in-Barbary, N.Africa, June 3, 1911.



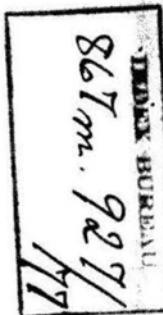
SUBJECT: IMPROBABILITY OF THE ARREST AND
PUNISHMENT OF THE MURDERERS AND
ACCOMPLICES OF PROFESSOR DE COU
BY THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT, UNLESS
STRONG PRESSURE IS BROUGHT TO BEAR
UPON THE SUBLIME PORTE TO CHANGE THE
GOVERNOR AT BENGHAZZI.

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIR:



I have the honor to report to the Department
the result of my interviews with two officials, who
on account of their prominent position and in the case
of one, intimate connection with the Turkish Govern-
ment, have requested that I withhold their names. Both
of these gentlemen are perfectly familiar with all
the facts of the murder of Prof. De Cou; both have
been in Benghazzi, one arriving from there only a few
days ago; both are cognizant of the special conditions
which make the arrest of the said murderers very dif-
ficult; and they both know personally the Turkish and
Arab officials in the district of Benghazzi, who are
responsible for the execution of the laws .

From facts stated and opinions expressed, I beg
to submit the following observations:-

The Arabs in the province of Benghazzi have but
little

little respect for the Turkish authority, partly because of the large measure of independence enjoyed by them (as the Turks have studiously allowed their rule to be felt as lightly as possible in this district), and again because of the inefficient government officials in charge of the administration of the different governmental posts, from the lowest to the highest. And at the present time, the Mutessarif (Govenor) is not only inefficient, but a nonentity. He will make no serious efforts to arrest the said assassins, but will be dominated by the advice of the Administrative Council of Benghazzi, the moving spirit thereof being Mansour Kehia a very influential Arab of the Senussi, and also one of the directors of the Banca di Roma at Benghazzi. This Kehia seems to be a grafter and, as he is not getting any plunder from the American Expedition, he would not hesitate for a moment to plot against the Americans; but the difficulty of securing convicting evidence against him seems almost insurmountable. Whether the Italians with whom he is associated connive at this hostility against our Expedition is a debatable question, although I am aware that it is the commonly-held view in almost every quarter that the Italians are in some way mixed up in this regrettable affair.

The assassins are still in the district between Benghazzi and Cyrene at the home of a family by the name of Chaonād, and the boast is openly made that they will never be punished; and in fact the Arabs are beginning to regard them as heroes because they have killed a Christian. Now it is obviously conceded that the Sublime Porte will continue to make representations that everything is being done and will be done to apprehend these murderers, but its record for the last two and a half months proves conclusively either

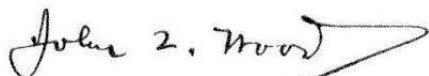
either bad faith or a case of inability to handle this problemIt is perfectly evident that the Turks will have trouble in bringing about the proper punishment of these fiendish criminals, but I believe they can effectively do so, especially if they could send to Benghazzi a Govenor such as we have at Tripoli. When the Arabs once recognize they have a master, these murderers will be surrendered, and not till then shall we ever know the true motive of this crime.

Our Expedition plans to return in the month of September. If the assassins are not caught by that time and summararily executed others will be encouraged to murder members of our party; the same motive for the removal of the Americans will exist and the absence of law and order will certainly encourage a repetition thereof. In the meantime the leaders in this dastardly crime will not fail to stir up the fanaticism of the Arabs against the Christians as a protection for themselves in case of detection of their complicity and an attempt to punish them by the proper authorities.

A duplicate copy of the above has been sent to the Embassy for its information.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,



American Consul.

No. 13.

June 28, 1911.

867m. 927/7

John Q. Wood, Esquire,
American Consul,
Tripoli, North Africa.

Sir:

The Department has received your despatch No. 40, of June 3rd, in further reference to the arrest and punishment of the murderers of Mr. DeGou, killed at Cyrene on March 11th last. You state your opinion that the assassins cannot be brought to justice until a new Governor is appointed at Benghazi.

This matter is continuing to receive the careful attention of the Department.

I am, Sir,

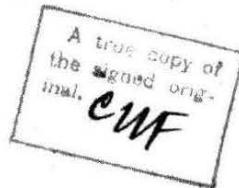
Your obedient servant,

For Mr. Knox:

Wilbur J. Carr.

867m. 927/77

3 X/TY.



AMBASCIATA
S. M. IL RE D'ITALIA

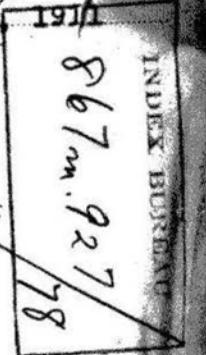
No. 1260



Manchester, Mass.

8 Luglio 1911
Copied to C'ple a Rome to
Sen. Lodge July 19 1911.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

JUL 12 1911
summary
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS



Signor Segretario di Stato,

Ho l'onore di segnar ricevuta della pregiata nota in data 5 corrente, No.139, mediante la quale Vostre Eccellenza si è compiaciuta trasmettermi un promemoria contenente l'esposizione di fatti e di circostanze in relazione alle esplorazioni della Società Archeologica Americana in Cirenaica, promemoria che mi farò premura di inviare al R. Ministero degli Affari Esteri.

Senza entrare in merito ai fatti ed alle considerazioni svolte in quel documento, sul quale non dubito che il Regio Governo rivolgerà tutta la sua attenzione, mi permetto, sulla base delle notizie telegrafiche a suo tempo fornite dal R. Ministero a questa Ambasciata e dei successivi dispacci, di esporre alcuna dati di fatto che sembrano non essere in perfetta armonia con quelli del documento sudetto:

- 1) Che Il R. Ministero degli Affari Esteri, fino dal 4 gennaio scorso, aveva dato istruzioni al R. Console in Bengasi di mantenere un contegno di assoluta imparzialità verso la missione archeologica americana;
- 2) Che secondo le assicurazioni del R. Console a Ben-

A Sua Eccellenza

L'On. Philander C. Knox,

Segretario di Stato,

Washington.

21

gasi, tanto gli assassini quanto le loro famiglie non hanno avuto alcun rapporto nè col Banco di Roma, nè colle Regie Autorità Cosolari;

3) Che il Regio Console a Bengasi, appena avuto notizia dello assassinio del Signor DeCou, si è recato a far visita ufficiale al suo collega d'Inghilterra - quale rappresentante degli interessi americani colà - e, nell'esprimergli le sue condoglianze a nome della colonia, mise a sua disposizione per quanto potesse giovare alla missione predetta, gli uffici del Rappresentante consolare Italiano a Derna;

4) Che fu invitato a prestar cura e soccorso della missione americana, il Dottor Mei, con una lettera del R. Console Bernabei al Prof. Norton, la quale non fu recapitata unicamente perchè il Dottor Mei non potè sbarcare a Marsa Susa, e quando egli fu di passaggio a Derna, il Dottor Besson era già di ritorno da Cirene.

Non appena mi perverranno altre informazioni dal Regio Ministero, non mancherò di portarle senza ritardo a conoscenza dell'Eccellenza Vostra, alla quale porgo intanto i sensi della mia più alta considerazione.

Neppote Lambiasi

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

July 12, 1911.

Mr. Charles Wilson:

The Secretary will
wish to ~~see~~ ^{receive} ~~get~~ ^{have} this
preliminary reply from
the Italian Embassy, about
the DeCourse. ^{JULY 17 1911}

Mr. Clark suggests
that we copy to Rome and
Constantinople, and await
the Embassy's further com-
munication. I shall also
tell Prof. Carroll of this
and I presume the Secretary
will want it copied to
Senator Lodge.

C.W.F.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

July 12.

Dear Mr. Clark:

Here is
the preliminary reply
from the Italian Embassy.
Kindly return after
noting, and then we
can confer about any
possible next step.

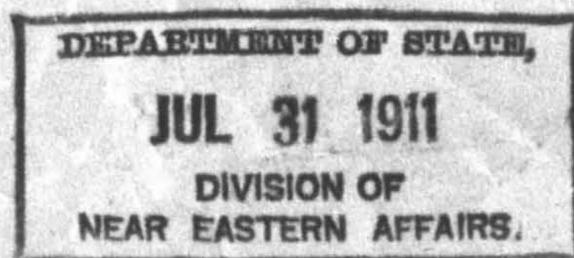
To 3

C.W.F.

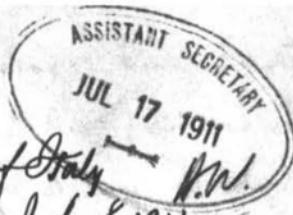
DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR.

To Mr. Fowle
I found this yes-
terday, I think it is
what you were looking
for.

Wdey



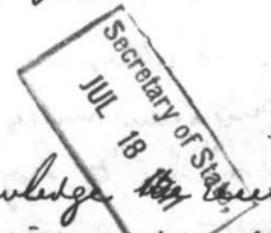
Translation



Embassy of H.M. the King of Italy
Manchester, Mass., July 8, 1911.

No 1260.

Secretary of State.



I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the valued note, No 139, dated the 5th instant, with which your Excellency was pleased to transmit to me a memorandum containing a statement of facts and circumstances in regard to the explorations of the American Archaeological Society in Cyrenaica, which memorandum I shall hasten to forward to the Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Without going into the merits of the facts and circumstances set forth in that paper which I leave no doubt will receive the Royal Government's best attention, I venture, on the strength of telegraphic advice received in due course by the Embassy from the Royal Ministry and of subsequent despatches, to submit a few points of fact which do not seem fully to agree with those found in the paper aforesaid:

1. The Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs as early as January 4 last, had instructed the Royal Consul at Benghazi to maintain an attitude of absolute impartiality toward the American archaeological mission.
2. According to the assurances given by the Royal Consul at Benghazi, neither the murderer nor their relatives had any connection whatever with either the Bank of Rome or the Royal Consular offices.
3. Immediately upon hearing of Mr de Cori's murder the Royal Consul at Benghazi paid an official visit to his British colleague - who has charge of American interests there,

there - and expressed to him his condolence in the name
the colony, and place at his disposal, for such use as they
could be put to by the above named mission, the services of the
Italian Consular representative at Tripoli.

H. Dr Mei, was sent to give aid and attendance to the
American mission, with a letter from the Royal Consul
Bernabèi to Professor Norton which was not delivered
for the only reason that Dr Mei was not able to land
at Marsa Sua, and when he passed through Tripoli,
Dr Besson had already returned from Cyrene.

As soon as further information reaches me from
the Royal Ministry, I shall not delay bringing it to
Your Excellency's knowledge and I offer to you in the
meanwhile the sentiments of my highest consideration.

L. Negrucci Cambiaso.

No. 374.

July 19, 1911.

W

867 m. 927/78

Hoffman Philip, Esquire,

American Chargé d'Affaires,

Constantinople.

Sir:

Referring to the Department's instruction of the 7th instant enclosing a copy of a note addressed by the Department to the Italian Embassy concerning the killing of Mr. DeCou at Cyrene, I enclose herewith, for your information and for the files of the Embassy, a copy of the Italian Embassy's preliminary reply, dated at Manchester, Massachusetts, on the 8th instant.

The Department awaits the receipt of the more complete reply of the Italian Government. In the meantime the Embassy will continue its efforts with the Ottoman Government to secure the arrest and punishment of the murderers of Mr. DeCou and to ensure proper protection to the American expedition in its further labors in North Africa.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

Enclosure:

From Italian Embassy,
July 8, 1911.

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

CWF

867 m. 927/78
3 F/P10

No. 230.

July 19, 1911.

867m. 927/8
8/12/2

The Honorable

John G. A. Leishman,

American Ambassador,

Rome.

Sir:

Referring to the Department's instruction of the 7th instant enclosing a copy of a note addressed by the Department to the Italian Embassy concerning the killing of Mr. DeCou at Cyrene, I enclose herewith, for your information and for the files of the Embassy, a copy of the Italian Embassy's preliminary reply, dated at Manchester, Massachusetts, on the 8th instant.

The Department awaits the receipt of the more complete reply of the Italian Government.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

Enclosure:

From Italian Embassy.
July 8, 1911.

A true copy of
the signed original.
CWF

867 M 927/76

3 P/P/*✓*

W

867m. 927

8/4/8

July 19, 1911.

The Honorable Henry Cabot Lodge,
United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to the Department's letter of the 12th instant, transmitting for your confidential information copies of a note and memorandum sent to the Italian Embassy. I have the honor to enclose herewith for your confidential information a copy of a preliminary reply from the Italian Embassy, dated the 8th instant.

The Department awaits the receipt of the fuller reply of the Italian Government to the note of July 5th.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

Enclosure:

From Italian Embassy.
July 8, 1911.

867 M 927/

3 F/P1

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

CWF

G. Lo.

July 22, 1911
m 62748

July 22, 1911

Personal.

My dear Senator Lodge,

In reply to your letters^(X) of the 14th and the 20th instant, referring to the murder of Mr DeGou, I have to state for your confidential information that I entirely agree with you that the reply of the Italian Embassy of the 5th instant cannot be regarded as satisfactory, and I also agree with your suggestion (in the letter of the 14th, marked "personal and confidential") that we ought vigorously to press Italy for a satisfactory adjustment of this difficulty, which should include punishment of the murderers and if possible the removal of the Italian Consul at Benghazi. The Department will, in accordance with the plan foreshadowed in its note to the Italian Embassy of the 5th instant, continue to work to this end.

Concerning

The Honorable Henry Cabot Lodge,
United States Senate.

(X) File Nos. 867 m. 927/81 882

Concerning your reference to possible agitation of this matter in the Senate, I would suggest the propriety of giving the question most careful consideration before any such action is taken. In this connection I should advise you that some ten months since, an Italian subject was lynched at Tampa, Florida, apparently by American citizens. The Italian Embassy at once called the matter to the attention of the Department, which in turn addressed the Governor of Florida and requested that steps be at once taken to bring to punishment those guilty of the crime. Some proceedings were taken by the local authorities along the line of ascertaining who was responsible for the crime; indeed the matter was taken before the local Grand Jury, but no indictments whatsoever were found, and so far as this Department is advised, the whole proceedings must be characterized as little more than perfunctory. The Italian Government has continued to press us upon this matter, insisting that the parties guilty of the crime should be brought to justice. We have as continuously importuned the Governor of Florida to see that the criminals were apprehended, tried, and punished if found guilty, but have received from him in reply to such requests, communications not only unsatisfactory but unnecessarily discourteous if not, indeed, insulting. The newspaper reports published

in Tampa,

in Tampa, both immediately preceding (as it is recalled) and after the tragedy, leave little doubt that if the local officials really wished to learn who did the lynching they would be able to do so.

You will readily perceive that our position with reference to the DeCen matter is materially weakened by our situation in this Tampa incident, and this is but emphasized by the fact that the DeCen matter occurred not upon Italian soil, but upon Ottoman territory.

In connection with the Tampa matter I might also call to your attention the South Omaha riots which occurred a year or so ago, in which a number of Greeks, Turks and Austrians were injured and their property destroyed by an American mob, all of whose members have thus far gone wholly unpunished. I suggest for your consideration the fact that all these cases show the urgent necessity for some federal law defining and authorizing punishment for offenses against the law of nations, as well as for offenses violating the treaty rights which may be held in any given case by aliens. Would it not be possible for an adequately drawn measure to be introduced in Congress and passed covering these matters? The absence of such power in the Federal Government is a matter not only of much embarrassment but at times of no little humiliation, and in cases such as

the one

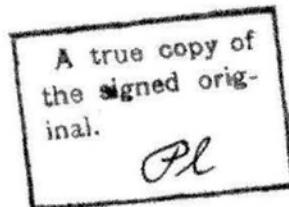
the one under discussion seriously affects this Department in its attempts adequately to protect American citizens abroad, because of the fact that we are ourselves at times so derelict in protecting aliens resident here.

I assure you, however, that the Department will continue to exert every proper diplomatic effort to secure a settlement of this DeGou matter in the manner suggested.

I am, my dear Senator Lodge,

Yours very sincerely,

P. C. KNOX

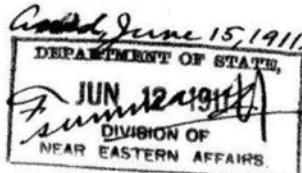


607 M. 607/

D - E
JRC

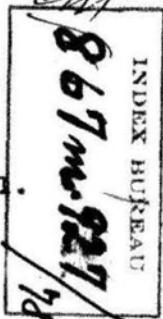


No. 240



AMERICAN CONSULATE,

Jerusalem, Syria, May 15, 1911.



FILED
JUN 16 1911

SUBJECT: Transmits report on recent excavations
in the Haram esh-Sherif at Jerusalem.

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a report on recent excavations in the Haram esh-Sherif at Jerusalem, which have caused considerable excitement in this district and which have been the subject of comment in the Constantinople Parliament and in European newspapers.

A copy of the report has been sent to the Embassy at Constantinople.

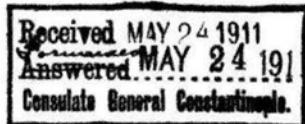
I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Consul.

Enclosure:

Report.



A M E R I C A N C O N S U L A T E

Jerusalem, Syria, May 15, 1911.

REPORT ON THE RECENT EXCAVATIONS IN THE HARAM ESH-SHERIF
AT JERUSALEM.

There has been a good deal of agitation recently at Jerusalem on account of the discovery of alleged unauthorized excavations made by a party of Englishmen in the Haram esh-Sherif, the walled area which was the site of Solomon's Temple.

In the spring of 1909 a party of English excavators armed with a firman from Constantinople began working at a site in Siloam near the so called Fountain of the Virgin and about 300 yards south of the southern wall of the Haram esh-Sherif. The leader of the party was Capt. the Hon. Montagu B. Parker, brother of Lord Morley. Mr. Clarence Wilson a wealthy Englishman, brother of Colonel Gordan Wilson of the Royal Horse Guards, and Lord Duff were associated with Capt. Parker and Mr. James Lee and Mr. S. Otto von Bourg were also of the party, the latter two probably as employees. Six English workmen were brought out as foremen of the works. It is probable that others who did not come to Jerusalem were interested in the project and that a syndicate had been formed, as Capt. Parker once told the writer that Mr. Allison V. Armour of the United States was associated with him in these excavations.

The work was conducted with the utmost secrecy and with a lavish expenditure of money. Aside from the firman, it was quite evident that Capt. Parker bore extraordinary recommendations, presumably from Constantinople, as he was

able to get practically any favors he wanted from the local authorities with none of the usual temporizings.

The wildest rumors were afloat in Jerusalem as to the real character of this expedition. It was said that the party was in search of the ancient treasures of the Jews and that they were working with a cipher extracted from the Book of Ezekiel. It was also said that they were following an ancient Hebrew document written in Samaritan characters and dating from the destruction of Solomon's Temple and the subsequent exile of the ten tribes of Israel to Persia and that this document had been discovered in the north of Ireland. The writer has also heard that the story of the party's search in Jerusalem had leaked out in England and that a novel called "The Treasure of Israel," by William Le Queux, was founded on it.

Whether or not these rumors had any foundation, it was evident that the directors of the party were not the kind of men usually interested in archaeology. Mr. Armour, said to be connected with the expedition, has an interest in archaeology but Capt Parker, its active head, seemed much more likely to be attracted by a search for buried treasure than by a long stay in Jerusalem, cut off from his usual interests and amusements, for the purpose of serious archaeological research. Furthermore, when Capt. Parker first visited Jerusalem in November, 1908, to "choose a site" for the proposed excavations Mr. Gelat, the dragoman of this Consulate, showed him around and reported that Capt. Parker, visiting the Haram esh-Sherif for the first time, went straight to the roof of the Mosque el Aksa and pointed with his stick to the exact spot near the Fountain of the Virgin in Sileam where he desired to excavate and where work was afterwards begun.

I do not think that anyone in Jerusalem anticipated that the party had planned to do any work in the Haram esh-Sherif area, but it now seems likely that they expected to find underground passages leading into the Haram esh-Sherif. From what I can learn they did find underground passages in the course of their own tunneling, but these led to the east side of the Valley of Kedron instead of to the west side where the Haram esh-Sherif is located. (A reference to the plan of Jerusalem opposite page 23 in Baedeker's Palestine and Syria, Ed. of 1906, will afford a good idea of the scene of the operations.)

Being unable to enter the Haram esh-Sherif under ground, it seems that the party took the bold course of obtaining an entrance to it at night when the area is empty except for its guardians.

Near the center of the area is the Kubbet es Sakhra, better known as the Mosque of Omar; on the southern side is the Mosque el Aksa and at the south eastern corner is the entrance to "Solomon's Stables," spacious underground rooms some of which extend under the Mosque el Aksa. The Mosque of Omar covers the sacred rock which is some 60 feet long by 45 feet wide and was probably the site of an altar for sacrifices. On the south side of it is an entrance to a hollow under the rock which is now paved and was probably a cistern. (It was at this spot that the shooting of the two American ladies took place in March 1910) According to Jewish tradition the rock was the spot where Abraham was about to sacrifice Isaac and was regarded as the center of the world. It is said that Jeremiah buried the Ark of the Covenant beneath the rock when Jerusalem was destroyed. The Moslems believe that the rock hovers, without support, over an abyss and they say that beneath it is the "Well of Souls" where the souls of the

departed met twice a week to pray. There are numerous other traditions connected with the rock.

It is reported that the English excavators spent some fifteen nights, prior to April 15th. last, at work in the Haram esh-Sherif and that they opened a stone in the top of the rock, uncovering a conduit which was probably used to carry off the blood of the sacrifices; also that they shored up the pavement in the hollow under the rock and excavated there, as well as in Solomon's Stables where they opened the so called Cradle of Jesus.

It became generally known on Monday April 17th., that they had been at work in the Haram esh-Sherif and both the Moslem and Jewish population of Jerusalem were greatly excited at this information. The English party left Jerusalem for Jaffa on April 18th. and either that day or the next sailed from Jaffa in Mr. Clarence Wilson's yacht. The discovery of their work in the Haram area was not the cause of their departure as, some days before, Capt. Parker had told the writer that the party would leave on the 18th.

Public sentiment in Jerusalem ran very strongly against this supposed desecration of a holy place and theft of articles of priceless value. It was reported, and is still quite generally believed here, that the party discovered objects of great antiquity and took them away. Among these are said to be the stone tables of the law, the crown of David, the golden sword of Solomon and the Ark of the Covenant containing the first tables of the law, broken by Moses.

The Governor of Jerusalem and Sami Bey, the commandant of gendarmes, were accused of complicity and of having been heavily bribed. Prominent native Moslems telegraphed strong protests to the Constantinople government and to

the religious heads of different vilayets in the Empire. A certain Sheikh Khalil, one of the hereditary guardians of the Haram area, was arrested and Makasdar, the Armenian dragoman of the English party, who is said to be well known at Constantinople, was not allowed to leave Jaffa and was sent back to Jerusalem.

The tension for a few days was quite acute as the incident happened just at the time of the Neby Musa (Prophet Moses) festivities, when large numbers of Moslems are collected in Jerusalem for the annual procession to the reputed tomb of Moses some miles distant from the city. On Friday April 21st., when the Haram area was crowded and services going on in the Mosque el Aksa, a fight between two Arabs outside started a small panic and an unfounded rumor spread instantly over the town that the Moslems had risen against the Christians.

The Jerusalem deputies at Constantinople put a question in Parliament regarding the affair and a formal commission of inquiry consisting of Hashim Pasha, a general from Acre, Azmi Bey, Governor of Tripoli, Syria and Mirri Pasha, Director of Evkaf at Aleppo, was sent here to investigate. This commission finished its work and left Jerusalem on May 10th., but its findings were not made public and its work was conducted so secretly that not even rumors as to the tenor of its report are current. Makasdar, the Armenian dragoman of the English party, and Sheikh Khalil, the guardian of the Mosque, are, however, still in prison.

Sami Bey, commandant of gendarmes left Jerusalem a few days ago and is reported to have gone to Damascus to submit to a court martial. It seems unlikely that Azmi Bey, the Governor of Palestine, will remain much longer in office as, even if the commission clears his skirts, he

will have lost whatever confidence and respect of the people he may have previously possessed and undoubtedly strong pressure will be brought to bear at Constantinople to obtain his removal.

It is the writer's opinion that whatever Capt. Parker and his associates did in the Haram esh-Sherif was done with the knowledge and assistance of the Governor of Jerusalem and was probably authorized by Constantinople. It seems very improbable that any objects of such great value as is rumored were found by the party. However exaggerated the incident may have been, it unquestionably has a certain importance and its further development will be awaited with interest.

A handwritten signature in cursive ink, appearing to read "Wm. C. Coffin". The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized, with "Wm." and "Coffin" being the most distinct parts.

Consul.

will have to get whatever consequences and reabief to file
before we may have officially beenassed and undergone properly
stated demands will be brought to port of Conference before
to obtain his removal.

If it is the Minister's opinion that whatever step. But
not only this association did in the first esp-Schell was
done with the knowledge and assent of the Government
of Germany and the Conventions.

Enclosure No. 2
Mo. D. 15, 1911
Despatch
Report on
Recent excavations in
the Horan and Wadi
Harran and their
vicinity with reference to
the development of the
country.

Count.

867 m. 92 7/19

Washington Sunday Star, FILE
March 12, 1911.

ITALO-TURKISH RELATIONS

The relations between Italy and Turkey have been strained to the point of breaking because of the many elements of discord which have come into their relations.

Strained. The present situation is not so grave as that of a few weeks past, but it is still sufficiently serious to merit a recapitulation of the unfortunate incidents which have caused apprehension in Europe.

The first trouble was over the excavation in the Cyrenaica, where concessions had been accorded by the Ottoman government to an American archeological mission which had preference over Italians. That affair created in all Italy a very strong feeling and was made the subject of an interpellation in the Italian chamber by M. Marzini. A few weeks later another incident occurred: a journalist named Guzman published a violent article against the Italian colony in Tripoli. The Italian consul demanded the expulsion of the offending Guzman, which was obtained only after some vexatious delay. The matter was further aggravated when it was discovered that the authorities permitted the return of the journalist. A third incident, more serious than the preceding because involving real economic interests, is that of sulphur mining. Now in these sulphur operations, as in the archeological excavations, Americans appear to have obtained valuable concessions supported by the Turkish vall, notwithstanding the opposition of the Italian consulate. This latter incident produced a great commotion in Italy, especially in Sicily, largely interested in sulphur mining, one of its principal industries. A great number of the laboring class, notably those in the regions of Etna, find in the sulphur industry their principal means of existence. The revenues are considerable because of the entire lack of competition, and if after the augmentation of wages as the result of the recent strike there should be developed a competition which might threaten the Sicilian sulphur monopoly the Italian government could not fail to take an interest in the matter.

*

The Marquis de San Giuliano was very emphatic in his affirmations in the Italian chamber, December 2, when he said: "Italy desires that the Tripolitan should remain Turk, but Italy would prevent any other influences than her own from implanting themselves there. Italy desired to cooperate in a privileged way with the capitalists and the Ottoman exploitation of the Tripolitan enterprises."

The Italian government attributes the aforementioned disagreeable incidents to the systematic hostility of the Vassal of Tripoli. The *Gloriale d'Italia* writes of this Turko official: "This young Turkish militant vassal has taken possession of his post with the object publicly announced of opposing all Italian projects for the pacific penetration of Tripoli." He commenced by boycotting the Bank of Rome, which represents in Tripoli Italian capital. He had hidden himself behind intricate court proceedings in order to obstruct and prevent Italians from purchasing lands. He had supported the Americans in the matter of excavations and the concessions for the sulphur mines, and the *Gloriale* accused the vassal of upholding and inciting the Argentinean journalist Guzman to attack Italians; the vassal had inspired the Argentine to prepare a carnivalistic cortege which had paraded the streets of Tripoli and before the Italian consul uttered offensive exclamation against Italy; the vassal had given himself mighty airs and had affirmed publicly that Turkey, supported by Germany and Austria-Hungary, could defy Italy.

*

A fourth incident reported by the Correspondance d'Orient happened at Montastru. At a ball given by the consular corps of that city the flags of all nations were intertwined. Above the door the Italian and Turkish flags were placed side by side, which not being to the taste of the Italian consul he caused the Turkish flag to be removed.

Flag

Row. The oaths were intertwined. Above the door the Italian and Turkish flags were placed side by side, which not being to the taste of the Italian consul he caused the Turkish flag to be removed.

forgiven the fact that England's presence in Egypt and her provinces is an act of defiance of Turkey's suzerainty in Egypt. There is no wonder, therefore, that England's influence at Constantinople, once predominant, has been succeeded by that of Germany.

The Liberals, it is assumed, now returned to unquestioned authority in England, will soon change England's policy in Egypt and disavow the intermeddling of Lord Cromer, who would perpetuate England's rule in Egypt for all time, in the hope that Cromer may be made "raja" or viceroys there.

Tripoli in Barbary, it should be said, fell under Turkish domination in the sixteenth century and although the Arabs in 1714 obtained a measure of independence, the country was proclaimed a Turkish vilayet in 1853. The chief authority, both civil and military, in Tripoli is in the hands of the governor general or vassal, under whom are mutessarifs, kaimakams and mudirs with authority over subordinate administrations, cantons or districts and communes, respectively. Sheiks have still authority over Arab tribes and Berber assemblies still raise taxes.

The western frontier of Tripoli as far south as Ghadames was established by France and Turkey in 1802. The population, about one million, is mostly Berber, but there are many Jews. The Europeans number five thousand, mostly Maltese and Ital'ans. Arabic is generally spoken, but Turkish is the official language. The Turkish army of occupation numbers about ten thousand. The products of Tripoli are barley, the chief food of the people, dates, olives, oranges and lemons, exparto grass, sponges, cattle and sheep. The exports comprise ivory, ostrich feathers, goat skins and other produce brought from the Soudan by caravans.

Sig. Albertini, long-time resident of Constantinople, has recently written a remarkable study of the relations Italy-Turk for the *Corriere della Sera*. The author does not believe that there is any particular hostility in Turkey against Italy, but he remarks that for a fact both press and people are constantly discourteous to Italians.

*

The Turks do not appear to take into consideration the grave embarrassment created for all the protecting powers in the Cretan question. Italy had

Question. been prevented by circumstances from acting as a friendly mediator for Turkey as she had wished to be, and thus had the appearance in the eyes of the latter of being an indifferent spectator if not an enemy. Turkey suspected Italy because of the Tripolitan.

The author, however, fails to touch the real point of the hostilities which exist between Italy and Turkey. M. Giovanni Amadori Vergili, the author of a book entitled "Le Questioni Romane in Politica Italiana," as we have here unfortunately pointed out, has done so most emphatically. He says: "Italy's geographic situation suggests that she should keep an eye upon the Ottoman coast of the Adriatic, that no hostile power install itself there."

Italy and Turkey are separated by the same aspirations in Albania, whence Albania, since 1407, after the death of Scanderbeg, passed from tyrant into eastern Italy. Italy would defend Albania against both Italy and Austria, which covet Albania. Albania's proper aspirations, it should be remarked, are for autonomy and independence, and this may offer a solution of the difference between the jealous states.

*

Turkey had been impressed by the declarations of the press and people on the subject of Tripoli, which Turkey's justified Turkish apprehensions.

Fears. The extravagant declarations in Italy as to Italian interests in Albania and in Tripoli constitute a division between Italy and Turkey which may not be easily explained by a ministerial declaration in the chamber. Certain Italians do not hesitate to say that the overtures of the minister of foreign affairs had procured less good effect than the naval manifestation in which Italy emphasized her desire to be treated

purchasing lands. He had suppressed Americans in the matter of excavations and the concessions for the sulphur mines, and the Giornale accused the vall of upholding and inciting the Argentine journalist Guzman to attack Italians: the vall had inspired the Argentine to prepare a carnivalistic cortège which had paraded the streets of Tripoli and before the Italian consulate uttering offensive exclamations against Italy; the vall had given himself mighty airs and had affirmed publicly that Turkey, supported by Germany and Austria-Hungary, could defy Italy.

* * *

A fourth incident reported by the Correspondance d'Orient happened at Monastir. At a ball given by

Flag Row. the consular corps of that city the flags of all na-

tions were interwoven. Above the door the Italian and Turkish flags were placed side by side, which not being to the taste of the Italian consul he caused the Turkish flag to be removed. This incident caused intense excitement and no little ill feeling.

The Tribune and the Corriere della Sera, however, in the polemics that followed, seized the occasion to deny the truth of a statement in a telegram to the Berliner Tageblatt, which announced that "Italy, because of the aforementioned incidents, would occupy the Tripolitan." The Corriere declared that the irony of the Berliner Tageblatt dispatch was in its exceeding naivete, and, considering the expansionism of Germany, Germans should be more modest.

There is still another incident Italo-Turk which merits mention because of the possible consequences. It appears that some weeks ago a sailing vessel from the Italian colony of Erythrea, of which Massawa, in the Red sea, is the port, stopped at the Turkish port at Hodesdale and discharged a part of its cargo in order to make repairs. A conflict with the customs resulted, in the course of which the Italian agent intended the "confiscations" in bar of execution of judgment by the Turkish authority against the vessel. The Italian government maintained that the vessel should be treated as an Italian vessel. Turkey replied that the Erythrea was formerly an Egyptian possession. The discussion was carried to Constantinople, where the Turkish government proposed to submit it to arbitration. The Italian government refused to accept this alternative, because it could not admit that its situation in the Erythrea nor the capitulation could be for a moment questioned. The German embassy, become all-powerful at Constantinople, interfered to arrange the matter. Up to this time nothing appears to have been accomplished, and the question still remains in suspense.

Without doubt the Italian government is within its rights in pleading the capitations, if the cargo of the boat is Italian property, as it is assumed. But the Turkish government's position will take in the matter of the Italian situation in the Erythrea, which is contestable. The suzerainty of Turkey over Egypt, on the other hand, is incontestable, and for a fact has never been contested. Erythrea was not taken from Egypt either by purchase or by an act of war, but by a violation pure and simple of territory. It does not excuse Italy's act that England was guilty about the same or similar aggressions at Zelikh, Aismayu, and in Uganda. For a fact, England's continued occupation of Egypt constitutes a flagrant violation of that territory and of treaties to which England is one of the signatories.

* *

For these systematic violations of the treaties, to say nothing of solemn promises and pledges many England's times renewed that she was not in Egypt to remain.

Forfeit. England is now paying the forfeit. Turkey has neither forgotten nor

against both Italy and Austria, which covet Albania. Albania's proper aspirations, it should be remarked, are for autonomy and independence, and this may offer a solution of the difference between the jealous states.

* *

Turkey had been impressed by the declarations of the press and people on the subject of Tripoli, which Turkey's justified Turkish apprehensions.

Fears. The extravagant declarations in Italy as to Italian interests in Albania and in Tripoli constitute a division between Italy and Turkey which may not be easily explained by a ministerial declaration in the chamber. Certain Italians do not hesitate to say that the overtures of the minister of foreign affairs had procured less good effect than the naval manifestation in which Italy emphasised her desire to be treated with proper respect.

The Vita di Roma, in a recent number criticizing the attitude of Italians in the matter of Tripoli, reproaches its compatriots with making enemies without any profit whatever. Their protestations as to the occupation of Ghadames by the French, according to the Vita, are puerile for we know that one day, sooner or later, France would occupy that oasis which was the natural prolongation of her Tunisian possessions. "Did the Italians hope to occupy Tripoli in order to guarantee the intangibility of Ghadames?" And the Vita recalls that it was the persistent allusions to the occupation of Tripoli which had provoked against Italians resident in Tripoli the campaign that had ruined their flourishing enterprises in that country.

* *

The Vita concludes that the belligerent attitude assumed by Italians against assumed enemies was grotesque and perilous, for no one anticipated that war could result from the questions in discussion.

There is, besides, a very pacific note in the semi-official Tanine, entitled, "The Exterior Policy of Turkey."

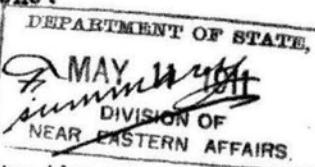
Turkey, says the note, should remain neutral and free from all alliances. She should follow the example of the powers which in their interviews and exchange of conversations arrange difficult questions and put down antagonisms. In that order of ideas Turkey should demand of England her views on the Bagdad railway, and seek in this manner to discover the way to an understanding. For if the English suspect the Turks of being the propagators of pan-Islamism in Egypt and in India, the Turks on their part are suspicious of English policy in Mesopotamia. It was necessary, said the note, to discuss questions openly and frankly and to conclude a formal accord. The same policy should be followed with France, with which government there had been some misunderstanding, and with which there should be a frank comprehension of her intentions. Each addition of a prudent and wise policy Turkey would acquire an enviable situation among the powers and enable her thus to play the role of pacifier between the triple alliance and the triple entente.

A note of peace from Turkey in the Tanine is another evidence of the great change which the revolution of the Young Turk has effected. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall inherit the earth." Thus Turkey, the peacemaker, may inherit Albania, Mesopotamia and Egypt, which, besides, are her lawful inheritances.

CH. CHAILLE-LONG.

MEMORANDUM. Private and Confidential.

Re Intrigues connected with the murder of H. F. De Cou at Cyrene.



For many years past the Italian Government has directed its attentions to the extension of its control in North Africa to the Barbary Provinces lying roughly between Tripoli on the West and the Egyptian frontier on the East, so that the country comprised in these limits (which includes the whole of the ancient Cyrenaica) is regarded by her as belonging to her sphere of influence in precisely the same way that France regards Morocco. Her encroachments in this direction have met with a decided opposition on the part of the Ottoman Government but in spite of that Italian influence over the Barbary Coast is steadily spreading. For the last few years she has sought to obtain archaeological concessions on this coast but so far without any success. Consequently the cession to the Archaeological Institute of America of the site of Cyrene, or as it is known today, Ain Shehat, has roused a considerable amount of indignation in Italy and frequent questions have been asked in the Italian Chamber during the past winter as to the reason for the granting of this concession. From the frequency with which the question of the exploitation of the sulphur mines has been introduced and the concern expressed as to their possible commercial interference with those of Sicily it may be concluded that the Cyrenaica is regarded by the Italians as a territory to be desired for its sulphur and possibly potash deposits.

It may here be stated that so far as the American Expedition is concerned no trace of the existence of such deposits is known. Possibly a confusion may have arisen in this respect. The whole region of the Cyrenaica in ancient times possessed as its chief industry, the cultivation of the Silphium plant, a plant highly esteemed in the ancient Pharmacopeia and which served as the foundation of many of the drugs of classical times. This plant has been entirely destroyed since the beginning of the Christian era though a variety of it may still be found on the site, but this variety as far as we know, is poisonous to cattle and possesses no medical virtues. While this explanation may be somewhat far fetched it is still worthy of mention.

At any rate, the idea exists that the American Expedition is concerned with the commercial

exploitation of the country and that its archaeological purposes are so to speak, in the nature of a blind. Consequently it need not be a source of surprise that the granting of this concession in May 1910 aroused a good deal of indignation in Italy, and that her agents should have believed that they were justified, from the standpoint of their Government to use their best efforts to make the position of the American Excavators untenable.

Professor Richard Norton, the Director of the American Expedition, made a preliminary trip from Benghazi to Derna by way of Cyrene, during the summer of 1910. About that same time an Italian Expedition also travelled along the same route with a view to obtaining the concession to excavate the site of Tekra, the ancient Teucheira. At that time Professor Norton discovered that Sig. Bernabei the Italian Consul in Benghazi was making an attempt to purchase the land at Ain Shehat on which the American excavators would be forced to dig, obviously with a view of making the excavation impossible. This attempt however, was frustrated by Professor Norton, so that this attempt to block the work proved unsuccessful.

The American Expedition began its campaign at Shehat on the 29th of October 1910. It was then discovered that the progress of the Italian Expedition through the country the preceding summer had been marked by an extraordinary number of falsehoods which they had spread among the natives with regard to the intentions of the American excavators. At every turn suspicion and distrust were met with and it was firmly believed that the Americans intended to confiscate the land, colonise and build houses, drive out the inhabitants and steal the women and children. Nearly two months elapsed before these suspicions were overcome, and since that time the natives have repeatedly expressed their surprise that the conduct of the Excavators was so at variance with what they had been led to believe by the Italians. ~~But~~ By the beginning of the year the work was proceeding smoothly, the Arabs had not only grown reconciled to the presence of the Americans but actually welcomed them owing to the amount of money brought in to the region. By degrees the excavators ceased to depend on a guard, trusted themselves freely with the natives, and continued the work without hindrance. It may be said that the Expedition was quite popular with the natives owing to the tact and patience of the Director and the activities of Dr. Sladden, the English doctor who in the course of six months treated over 1200 cases among them.

Towards the end of February Hadj ~~Saouan~~ Saouan the Mudir or Mayor of Cyrene reported to the Director that he was investigating a report to the effect that the four principal Sheikhs

of the Hassa tribe, Boumiriam, Bougleida, Boulhain and Bounaghaz had been approached by a Sheikh from outside the region (whether the name and home of this Sheikh was ever established definitely I cannot say at this writing) who had represented to them that if any way could be devised which would force the Expedition to leave the country for good and all it would be made very much worth their while. Nothing however was done to continue this investigation as the Sheikhs themselves did nothing to satisfy the intermediary.

and instantly killed

Mr. DeCou was shot at about eight o'clock on the morning of March 11th while he was proceeding to the work on the Acropolis, at a point about half way up the hill and a distance of a little less than half a mile from the camp, by three Arabs who had ambuscaded themselves behind a ruined house, *and killed instantly*. Two of the party were provided with guns and each fired one shot. As the range was less than thirty yards and both shots hit the abdominal cavity it is difficult to say which shot produced death. The workmen who were behind Mr. DeCou at the time reported that he fell forward and that his pulse fluttered for a moment or two after the shots were fired but that he displayed no signs of consciousness. The subsequent examination showed that the abdominal cavity had been badly torn and that the shock of the wounds would undoubtedly have produced instant ~~and~~ unconsciousness even if death had not immediately ensued, so it is extremely probable that he did not suffer. Immediately afterwards the murderers disappeared in the direction of the Fountain to the West going towards Merj.

The three murderers had come into Shehat two days or so before the crime and had lodged with one of the workmen. Their names were immediately given to the Director as well as their tribe. I cannot recall their names at this moment but they belonged to the Ait-Shelmi, a tribe living very near Tokra. Within an hour of the crime the report was current at Shehat that they had come there to kill the Director for which they were to receive a certain sum (\$30 according to one report) and that they had been commissioned to do this by the Italians. It was also discovered that they were shepherds in Italian employ, taking care of the flocks in the neighborhood of that place, which belong to the Italians. In fact the Italians possess a large number of herds of sheep and cattle in the vicinity of Benghazi which are tended by Arabs.

Spies were immediately put on their trail by the Director. Towards the end of March a report came to us that one of the murderers had been arrested, but it subsequently prov-

ed to be some member of the family of one of them. By the middle of April the Director learned from the spies that the murderers had returned to their original haunts and had resumed the care of their herds. Moreover a few days later word came to the Director indirectly from them that they cared not a pin for the Sheikhs of the Hassa tribe (the tribe settled at Shehat) and that if they were not let alone for the future and their families unmolested they would return to Shehat and not only make a great deal of trouble for the Sheikhs but they would this time kill the Director and all the members of the Expedition.

I departed from Shehat on April 25th on Mr. Allison Armour's yacht the Utowana with Messrs Curtis and Mott of the Expedition leaving the Director and Dr. Sladden at the Camp. The yacht was expected to return to Shehat, or rather to Marsa Sousa, the port of Shehat by the first week of May and take the Director to Benghazi to interview the Mutasarref there. Up to the time of my departure it was certain that not only had the murderers not been arrested but that so far as we knew no steps had been taken by the Mutasarref to secure their arrest and the Director was entirely at a loss to understand the reason for the delay.

To sum up then. We have the Italian opposition from the first instant when the question of the granting of the Irađe was broached. Next the false reports spread about the intentions of the Expedition by the Italians. Then the efforts on the part of the Italian Consul to acquire land at Shehat which resulted, at the Director's instigation in his being officially reprimanded by his government. Afterwards the attempt from an outside source to secure the failure of the Expedition by bribery of the Sheikhs of the Hassa tribe. The actual murder of one of the members of the Expedition by three Arabs, known to be shepherds in Italian employ, who came from Tokra, the site where the Italians possess herds of sheep and cattle and to excavate which they are now trying to secure an Irađe from the Sublime Porte. Lastly the return to their haunts of the murderers and the failure of the authorities to molest them in any way except by a nominal show of activity in the arrest of a few members of their families.

In view of all this evidence it may safely be presumed that though actual proof is lacking the shameful murder of one of the members of the Expedition was directly or indirectly due to the efforts of Sig. Bernabei the Italian Consul at Benghazi, and that no efforts should be spared to have the crime brought to his door. Even if his direct connection cannot be proved, it is of the greatest importance that the murderers should be caught and hanged, but before ex-

• Scution forced to confess where, when and by whom they were commissioned to do the deed. That of their own initiative they should have travelled a distance of over a hundred miles to murder a man whom they had never seen nor been connected in any way seems impossible to believe.

Joseph Clark Koppin

May 11th, 1911.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Second Assistant Secretary's Room.

MEMORANDUM.

July 27. 11.

I concur in principle,
with Mr. Clark's opinion.
Continue to press the
de Cor matter, but not
with indecent energy -
we should go into the
Italian court of international
justice with clean hands,
and our paws are, un-
fortunately, sadly begrimed.

asay

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

JUL 22 1911

DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

July 21, 1911.

Dear Mr. Fowle:-

Referring to these two letters from Senator Lodge regarding the DeCou murder (the one letter dated July 14th and the other July 20th) I have to suggest that we reply in some such sense as follows:

Write a personal letter for the Secretary's signature acknowledging Senator Lodge's letters of July 14th and July 20th, and say:

I entirely agree with you that the reply of the Italian Embassy of the 8th instant cannot be regarded as satisfactory and I likewise agree with your suggestion in your letter of July 14th that we ought vigorously to press Italy for a satisfactory adjustment of this difficulty, which should include punishment of the murderers and if possible the removal of the Italian consul

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

MEMORANDUM

-2-

at Benghazi. The Department will, in accordance with the plan foreshadowed in its note to the Italian Embassy of the 5th instant, continue to work to this end.

Concerning your reference to possible agitation of this matter in the Senate, I would suggest the propriety of giving the question most careful consideration before any such action is taken. In this connection, I should advise you that some ten months since, an Italian subject was lynched at Tampa, Florida, apparently by American citizens. The Italian Embassy at once called the matter to the attention of the Department and the Department in turn addressed the Governor of Florida and requested that steps be at once taken to bring those guilty of the crime to punishment. Some proceedings were taken by the local authorities along the line

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

MEMORANDUM

-3-

of ascertaining who was responsible for the crime, indeed the matter was taken before the local Grand Jury, but no indictments whatsoever were found and so far as the Department is advised the whole proceedings must be characterized as little more than perfunctory. The Italian Government has continued to press us upon this matter insisting that the parties guilty of the crime should be brought to justice. We have as continuously importuned the Governor of Florida to see that the criminals were apprehended, tried, and punished if found guilty, but have received from him in reply to such requests, communications not only unsatisfactory but unnecessarily discourteous if not, indeed, insulting. The newspaper reports published in Tampa, both immediately preceding (as it is recalled) and after the tragedy, leave little doubt but that if the local offi-

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

MEMORANDUM

-4-

cials really wished to learn who did the lynching they would be able to do so.

You will readily perceive that our position with reference to the DeCou matter is materially weakened by our situation in this Tampa incident, and this is but emphasized by the fact that the DeCou matter occurred not upon Italian soil, but upon Ottoman territory.

In connection with the Tampa matter I might also call to your attention the South Omaha riots which occurred a year or so ago, in which a number of Greeks, Turks, and Austrians were injured and their property destroyed by an American mob, all of whose members have thus far gone wholly unpunished. I suggest for your consideration the fact that all these cases show the urgent necessity for some federal law defining and authorizing punishment for offenses against the

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

MEMORANDUM

-5-

law of nations, as well as for offenses violating the treaty rights which may be held in any given case by aliens. Would it not be possible for an adequately drawn measure to be introduced in Congress and passed covering these matters? The absence of such power in the Federal Government is a matter not only of much embarrassment but at times of no little humiliation, and in cases such as the one under discussion seriously affects this Department in its attempts adequately to protect American citizens abroad, because of the fact that we are ourselves at times so derelict in protecting aliens resident here.

I assume the Department will, however, continue to exert every proper diplomatic effort to secure a settlement of this DeCou matter in the manner suggested.

JRC-JHP.



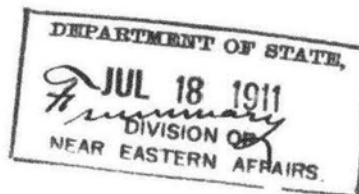
Gordons, July 22.

ONE

United States Senate,
COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION.

Personal and
Confidential.

My dear Mr. Knox:-



Secretary of State.

JUL 18 1911

209

July 14, 1911.

Ans'd. July 22, 1911.

File
Cust

I have received your letter of the 12th, together with the copy of your letter to the Italian Ambassador with the accompanying memorandum and the report from Mr. Laing. I have read them all with great care and deep interest.

Mr. Laing's report confirms the impression I had already gained as to the attitude of the Turkish Government which in two words may be said to be well-intentioned but feeble, their weakness being due to causes which we all understand. On the other hand, Mr. Laing's report makes the participation of the Italians much stronger than I had supposed, although I have felt little doubt that they were concerned. I think there can be no question now that this murder was instigated by the Italians and that they are protecting the murderers. The case, therefore, presents two phases, the Turkish and the Italian.

I think that for the safety of our people in the future and for the vindication of the rights of the United States so grossly outraged by the murder of one of our citizens we ought to insist on two things, the arrest of the murderers and the removal if possible of the Italian Consul at Benghazi. I thoroughly approve of your letter to the Italian Ambassador but unless Italy shows an active determination to do what is right and what the law of nations demands I think we ought to take a pretty strong tone with them. They do not desire enmities with us of any kind

867m. 92/13
INDEX BUREAU

MAR 11 1913
FILED

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION.

PCK-2

and they could not stand before the world one minute on this case. With the facts as they exist Senator Smith or I or any other Senator interested in the case could make a statement in the Senate which would arouse great and just popular indignation and which would put Italy in a very unfortunate light. This of course we ought to avoid if it can possibly be done but it rests with the Italian Government to avoid it.

As for Turkey, all we can do there is to insist on the arrest of the murderers and to put the strongest kind of pressure upon them to send a sufficient force to bring about the arrest.

If we can get no satisfaction on these points I think we owe it to ourselves, unless we are prepared to say that we will not undertake to protect our citizens, lawfully and peacefully engaged, against assault and murder in a foreign country, to send a ship next Autumn to Derna when the archaeological expedition again goes there. My own belief is that the mere presence of that ship would end the whole thing at once, produce the arrest of the murderers and make the Italian Government behave itself, which it is not doing now.

It is evident, by the way, that the Banco di Roma was in this thing and held up remittances, etc., using the information in the Italian interest. This action on the part of the bank brings the whole matter pretty close home to the Italian Government and if the matter were pressed in public they would find it very difficult to avoid responsibility.

Hon. P. C. Knox,

Secretary of State.

Sincerely yours,

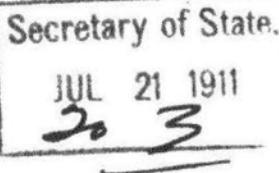
H. C. Lodge

Personal

United States Senate,
COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION.



July 20, 1911



Ansd. July 22, 1911.

File copy

Dear Mr. Knox:-

I find here your note of the 19th enclosing a translation of the reply of the Italian Embassy. It seems to me about as unsatisfactory as any reply could be. Instructing the Consul at Benghazi to maintain an attitude of impartiality has amounted to nothing, as we know. Statement No. 2 is simply false. It has been proved beyond a doubt that the murderers and their relatives are in the employ of Italian interests there and have relations with the Consul. Of course, Statements 3 and 4 amount to nothing; they are just language. I think we shall have to press the Italian Government pretty hard and it might be a good thing to say to them that this matter is likely to be taken up and made the subject of public debate in the Senate.

Very truly yours,

Hon. P. C. Knox,

Secretary of State.

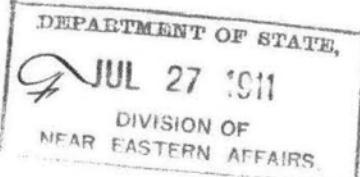
H.C. Lodge

867m. 927
MAP 11 1913
FILED

INDEX BUREAU



United States Senate,
COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION.



To □



SECRETARY
JUL 25 1911

July 24, 1911.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

JUL 27 1911

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2043
File
Cuff

INDEX BUREAU

MAR 11 1913
FILE

My dear Mr. Secretary:-

I have your letter of the 22d for which I am much obliged and I am glad that you agree with my view of the Ambassador's letter. I did not mean to suggest that the question was coming up in the Senate, because I do not mean to let it come up if I can possibly help it,-certainly not at present. I only thought that it might be a good thing to use in the discussion with them. Of course, no defense is possible for the action of Florida or for the Omaha case and I am sorry to say that these cases do not stand alone. I fully agree with you that there ought to be legislation which should enable the United States to interfere in the maintenance of treaty rights of foreigners. The situation of the United States in these cases is deplorable. It seems to me, however, that the fact that this ^{Cuban} murder took place on the territory of another government makes our position stronger and not weaker. If American citizens residing in Cuba or Mexico were to instigate a murder no state could protect them. They would be in that foreign country simply citizens of the United States and we could deal with them accordingly.

I am very glad to hear that you are going to press the case.

Hon. P. C. Knox,
Secretary of State.

Very truly yours,

H. C. Lodge

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

Dear Young
The Secy
would like
to speak to
you about these
small time values
that went up for
some time later

From Smather's office

Cyrene, March 23rd, 1911.

To H^E Secretary of State,
J. Francis Jones, Esq.,
APR 14 1911
Bengazi.

Dear Mr. Jones:-

Will you please read and then deliver to H. E. the Mutessarref the enclosed letter. There is not much that is new to tell you. I am told by one whose statements I have reason to trust that the third man who was seen with the two murderers belongs to the Ait Arifa and lives at Adriana (a few miles east of Bengazi on the coast) but as yet my informant has not learnt his name.

The Kaimakan is acting about as I expected him to. He does not know what to do and flutters about from one idea to another. The Mudir has far more vigour but while the Kaimakan remains here the Mudir can do nothing.

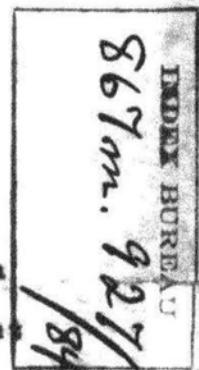
The work continues to go on steadily and well.

I will not write more as there--I forgot one thing. I was greatly surprised to have the Italian doctor (Sig. Besson) of Derna, turn up here three days ago. He admitted having received my letter saying his services were no longer required but he said he had another reason for coming. What it was he never explained. He was very inquisitive about the murder but I refused to talk of it to him and he left yesterday morning distinctly dissatisfied. Now I hear from the Kaimakan that Dr. Mai is on his way here from Bengazi. Why? We think he must be on the boat which left Bengazi a few days ago but which could not stop at Derna owing to the weather.

Now there are no more facts to tell you so I will stop as I am very tired. With best regards

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Richard Norton



MAR 11 1913
FILED

Cyrene, 23 March, 1911.

To H. E. Murad Fuad,
Governor of Bengazi.

Sir,

I beg leave to thank you sincerely for your recent telegram to me, and for all the measures you have taken to secure the murderers of my colleague Mr. De Cou. The Kaimakan of Derna is still here but gives me little information of what has been done and seems to me afraid of taking vigorous measures. On the day he arrived I told him that it seemed to me absolutely necessary to arrest the members of the Ait el Shemmi who live here. He has called them as witnesses and taken their evidence but done nothing more. Personally I do not believe their evidence taken in this manner is worth the paper it is written on. It also seems to me that the rest of the Ait el Shehmi who live at Birsis and the Wady Maghura ought to be arrested. If this is done there will be a good chance of getting the murderers.

I have today received a telegram from America, from the president of the Archaeological Institute, saying "spare no efforts to ascertain murderers. United States Government behind you." I need not emphasize to you, Sir, the gravity of that last statement. It is essential that the murderers should be speedily caught and also that their instigators should be discovered. I shall be pleased to hear from you what progress has been made in these two directions in order that I may communicate it to my Government.

Believe me, Sir, with high regard

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) Richard Norton

COPY.

Syrrene,

March 24, 1881.

To H. S. L. Consul

J. Francis Jones, Esq., Bengasi.

Dear Mr. Jones-

Though I wrote you yesterday, sending the letter to Derna this morning, I have decided to write again & to enclose copies of my yesterdays letter & its enclosure to H. E. the Governor.

The kaimakan left here this morning saying he had no more work to do. He went to Murra Sound saying he would wait there till he received orders, from H. E. the Governor, to return to Derna. My own belief is that he left here because a gale has been blowing for three days & he was uncomfortable.

Yesterday he sent off to Derna three prisoners, Mohammed the son of Sheikh Bonmiriam & the man el Gurt & his son with whom the murderers passed a night when they were in this neighborhood. He has done nothing about Bon Srieb with whom the murderers had dealings & also passed a night, I believe, except take his evidence which, in his queer French, he tells me was tres bon. That is all he has done with several others, ask them questions & let them go. I told him in writing & in conversation, when he first came, that he ought to arrest all of the Art el Shemai who live here & keep them under arrest till the murder is cleared up. I also gave him other names. However he did nothing, saying that as they had answered his questions he could do no more.

Some days ago he arrested Hadouth, another son of Sheikh Bonmiriam, who had sworn before witnesses that his father and brother

would never be taken to prison, and that he & his friends would make an ambush and save them, that it was an outrage to go to prison because of Christians who were their enemies before God. I myself sent the men who had heard him speak to the Kaimakam & they repeated their evidence. I told the Kaimakam that this man ought to be put in prison as a lesson to the natives, that if the Kaimakam allowed such talk to go unpunished the lives of none of us would be safe.

He also put in prison a man named Athya ben Drilu who altered his evidence several times. I had told the Kaimakam about this man & given him the evidence I had for believing Athya was with the murderers just before the crime was committed, that he had had dealings with them & knew a good deal about the affair.

Yesterday he sent for me & asked me if I objected to letting these men go. I told him he was a fool to think of such a thing, repeated the evidence against them & warned him that if he let them go I would protest against him in the strongest way I could. In the evening he sent the Mudir to see me. I repeated what I had said to the Kaimakam. The Mudir agreed entirely with me, & said the Kaimakam's methods were absolutely futile.

Today I find that the Kaimakam has set those men free. Will you please protest to the Mutesarrif about this. If he allows the investigation into the murder to be carried on in this way the matter will be a farce, & I shall let the world know that life is perfectly unsafe here & that the officials are worse than incompetent. The sooner the Kaimakam is relieved of his post & put at the head of a poultry farm the better, for this district. I am hoping to hear from you soon. The bearer of this letter is I believe perfectly trustworthy so you can send me any news by him.

With best regards,

Very truly yours, (Signed) Richard Norton

P. S. I suppose the Mutesarrif is aware that the troops sent here after the murder have now been taken by the Bi Bashi back to Derna.

COPY.

Cyrene,

March 24, 1911.

My dear Fairbanks:

Yesterday I received the first news I have had from America since De Cou's murder. It was a cable from Kelcy dated the 14th. It reads: "Starting for Chicago. Spare no efforts ascertain murderers. United States Government behind you". I enclose three letters I wrote yesterday and today which will show you the condition of things here & the steps I have taken or tried to take. I do not doubt that the kaimakam means well but he is very weak. While he was here he kept talking to me about what the law allowed or disallowed his doing regarding the witnesses. I told him that such talk was rubbish; that the law was all very well in settled communities where there were police & courts & the possibilities of regular legal proceedings but that he would surely be held responsible if justice was delayed in this case by his sticking to red tape in a country which is wild & uncivilized. As you will see by the enclosures I might have spared my breath.

I have today heard a report from one of the Arab Sheikhs that the members of the murderer's families who were arrested & taken to Bengazi have been put in the hands of the Italian conculate. This seems incredible but as I wrote the Ambassador in Constantinople anything is possible in this country.

Before the kaimakam left I asked him point blank whether his investigations led him to believe in the report that the crime was instigated by Italians & he said yes, they did. I am using every means in my power to get absolute proof of this. I do not believe

that the Italian Government had any hand in it but I do believe that
Italian Consul in Bengazi had. It is noteworthy that although all
the other consuls at Bengazi & Derna telegraphed their condolences
neither Bernabio (Ital. Cons. at Bengazi) nor any of the Italian
archaeologists at Bengazi have written a word. The strongest evi-
dence I have yet secured is this. A few days ago one of the Sheikhs
here brought me two men who met the murderers on the day of the
crime. In talk with them the murderers said they had just killed a
Christian at Ain Shehat and that they had been hired by Italians for
\$20. to do this. I sent these witnesses to the Kaimakam to whom
they told the same story & I have sent a full account to the
Ambassador in Constantinople giving the necessary names & dates.

The work is going on very well though we have been bothered
for some days by a gale of wind. As under such conditions the men
find work on the acropolis very difficult I moved them on to the
tombs, and the results have been good, some nice vases, some late
& bad, but interesting, busts & one good mitrical grave inscription.
I am hoping every day for more money as I am almost at my last penny.

Ever sincerely yours,

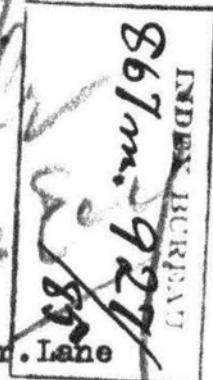
(Signed) Richard Norton.

3
Secretary of State,

MAY 6 1911

*To Mr. Knox
Cc: Mr. Lane*UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE PHILIPPINESF
4

April 24, 1911



My dear Mr. Knox:-

I have today sent to the President a letter from Mr. Lane and two from Mr. Norton which I am very anxious you should see and, if you would, read them with care. I think we ought to insist on the arrest and punishment of the murderers merely for the proper protection of American citizens everywhere and it also seems to me very important, as I wrote to the President, that the expedition should be enabled to return in safety next Autumn. I think we can bring all this to pass if we insist upon it and I am much struck by what Mr. Norton (who is a very intelligent and capable man) says in regard to the Italian connection with the affair. I believe myself that they are at the bottom of the whole thing.

Very truly yours,

A.C. Lodge

Hon. P. C. Knox,

Secretary of State.

MAP 11 1913
FILED

COPY.

Cyrene, April 10, 1911.

Dear Mr. Lane:

Your letter of March 16 reached me safely yesterday. You have I feel sure realized that my reason for not writing to you in detail about the murder is that I knew you would see what I wrote Fairbanks and the press of work is now so heavy that some things have to be cut out.

I am very sincerely obliged to you for urging the State Department to act energetically in the matter. It is not a time for procrastination. A month has passed now and the murderers are still at large though they were known from the first. Where they have been staying is also known and the Mudir and I, who found this out by means of spies, have more than once sent the news to the Mutessarrif in Bengazi. The latter is I believe in earnest in his endeavors to secure the murderers, but is probably blocked by Italian influence. Telegrams from the State Department asking for action and answers from the Sublime Porte promising it are of no use. Action by our Government is needed. If a battleship were to come with orders to land 100 marines and take the murderers themselves we should find that the affair would be quickly settled. If the Arabs feel that we can be killed without any harm coming to themselves we shall have to give up the work. If on the contrary they are quickly made to suffer severely, we shall be quite reasonably safe. The delay has already done serious harm, and the native newspapers in Tripoli are sneering at us.

Thank you very much for telephoning my sister. It was kind of you to think of it. I expect Armour any day now.

Always sincerely yours,

(Signed) RICHARD NORTON.

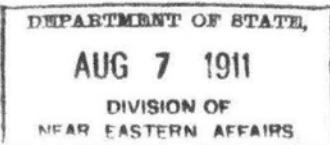
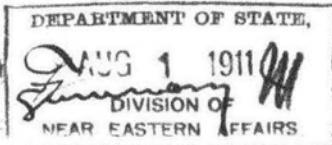


AMERICAN EMBASSY,
ROME.

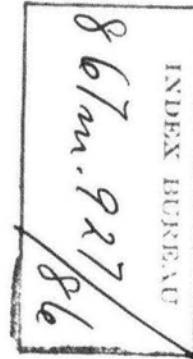
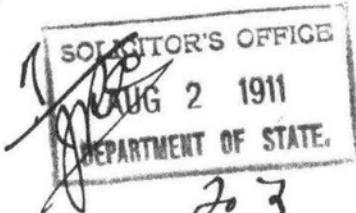
Secretary of State,
AUG 5 1911

July 15, 1911

No. 418.



Ans'd Aug. 10, 1911
File 302



AUG 11 1911
FILED

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have delayed replying to the Department's communication No. 191, dated April 15, 1911, in re murder of Mr. De Cou at Cyrene, hoping to be able to secure some data of a definite nature that would enable me to express a more or less positive opinion as to the causes which may have lead up to the tragedy-but at this long range I have found it possible to obtain but little tangible information.

I am not inclined, however, to accept the theories advanced by Mr. Norton with whom I had a long talk during his recent visit to Rome,-Mr. Norton's ideas being largely based upon hearsay testimony of local tribesmen who would naturally be interested

in placing the responsibility for such a crime on other tribes-and from my general knowledge of the Orient,coupled with what little information I have been able to absorb,I should judge that the murder was committed by local persons who had been on the spot for some time,through a spirit of private vengeance, rather than by tribesmen from another district,sent to Cyrene by political agents to do the foul work.

While it is true that a desire to control Tripoli exists in the minds of a great many Italians- which is frequently voiced in Parliament by a certain number of Jingo Deputies who still dream of conquest, and never cease regretting their failure to secure a big slice of Turkey ,as their natural rival,- Austria-,the more intelligent statesmen are not inclined to share their views, and would regard the acquisition of Tripoli more as a liability than as an asset.

Of course it is quite possible that the Italian Consul at Benghazi-reported to be a Levantine Jew-may have resorted to underhand work in order to prevent or lessen the influence of Americans, but it is quite reasonable to suppose that these feelings would be just as strong,or stronger,against Europeans getting a foothold,- and as he could not fail to realize that the Italian Government would neither support nor countenance such dastardly work,- the chances of the Consul having lent himself to any such enterprise seems to me to be rather remote.

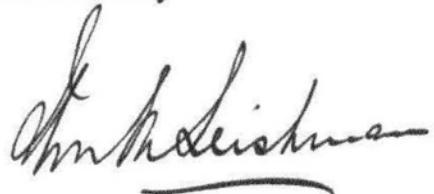
There is one bit of positive evidence which must not be lost sight of, and that is the fact of the American Expedition having repeatedly experienced difficulties for some months prior to the murder of DeCou,- as I remember Mr. Armour telling me when in Rome,some time before the murder,that he had received a letter from Mr. Norton stating that they were occasionally annoyed at night by rifle shots, and seemed to be considerably worried,as one of the balls had passed through the tent in which

they were sleeping,-but fortunately too high to strike anyone, and I deem it a very fair presumption that the party who fired the fatal shot that killed DeCou must have been the same that did the previous shooting.

In conclusion, I can only add, that while a certain amount of antagonistic feeling may exist against the American Expedition to Cyrene among the Jingo class which is pleased to regard the excavation work which is being carried on there as a mere blind to cover up the developement of sulphur mines etc.,etc., I have every reason to believe that the Government people, who clearly understand that it is merely an archaeological research party, are not at all antagonistic.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Frankishman". The signature is written over two lines, with the first line starting with a large 'F' and the second line ending with a long horizontal stroke under the 'n'.

S. L.

No. 240.

August 10, 1911.

28/626-uc 698

The Honorable

John G. A. Leishman,
American Ambassador,
Rome.

Sir:

The Department has received and read with interest your despatch No. 418, of July 15th, in further reference to the murder of Mr. DeCou at Cyrene.

Careful note has been made of your views regarding the charges made by Mr. Norton and others concerning Italian connection with this crime.

The Department is awaiting receipt of the reply of the Italian Government to the note addressed by the Department to the Italian Embassy in this city on July 5th last, a copy of which has been furnished your Embassy.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

867 m. 927/86

3 F/P1E

JRC

<input type="checkbox"/>	A true copy.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Signed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Date
PL	

No. 51.

AMERICAN CONSULATE, File *Pl*

SUBJECT: Visit of the Italian Consul-General

to the Consulate, for the purpose of ascertaining whether there was any foundation to the rumors that Mr. Norten had made statements implicating Italians in the murder of Prof. De Cou.

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of
the Department's No.19 of the 28th ultimo and have to
state that the local authorities have received no in-
formation from the judicial officers who are handling
the De Cou case in the district of Benghazi.

Referring to the intimation that Italians were indirectly implicated in the murder of the late Professor De Ceu at Cyrene, I have the honor to report that the Italian Consul-General recently called at the Consulate to interview me in regard to frequent rumors that Mr. Norton had made statements involving certain Italians in said crime. He also stated that he had written to the Italian Consul at Benghazi, as his name had been associated with said Italians, and had learned that Mr. Norton had failed to call upon their Consul at

Benghazi

Benghazi, although he had visited the English Consul and the French Vice-Consul. This fact created a suspicion in the mind of the Consul-General that there was some foundation in the rumors which had been brought to his attention.

My reply to the Consul-General was to the effect that this question was not within my jurisdiction and naturally I was not familiar with all the facts and rumors in regard to the case; that I was not aware that Mr. Norton had failed to call upon their representative in Benghazi; and that it was inconceivable to me that the Consul of Benghazi could in any way be mixed up in such a dastardly crime. I did state however that I had also heard street rumors in regard to some Italians being indirectly connected with said crime.

The Consul-General stated that it was very dangerous for a stranger, such as Mr. Norton, to give credence to reports of Arabs and Turks, without thoroughly going to their foundation, and referred to the murder of an Italian priest at Derna only a few years ago. It was claimed that an Italian had committed the crime and had it not been for the active intervention of the Italian Government, which despatched a cruiser to Derna, the Turkish officials would, without doubt, have allowed the murderer to go unpunished.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

John R. Ward
American Consul.

No. 24

August 12, 1911.

68/128.1a L 28

John Q. Wood, Esquire,
American Consul,
Tripoli-in-Barbary,
North Africa.

Sir:

The Department has received and read with interest your despatch No. 51, of the 20th ultimo, in further reference to the murder of Mr. DeCou at Cyrene and the subsequent situation in that district. You report the visit to your Consulate of the Italian Consul-General for the purpose of ascertaining what foundation there was for the rumors that Mr. Norton, of the American expedition, had made statements implicating Italians in the murder of Mr. DeCou.

You are confidentially informed that under date of July 5th the Department presented to the Italian Embassy in this city a statement of facts regarding this murder, based upon all the information which had been secured up to that date, and the Department still awaits the reply of the Italian Government, to which its note was transmitted by the Embassy.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For Mr. Knox:

867 m. 927/87

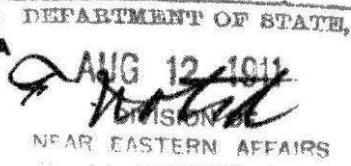
ALVEY A. ADEE

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

PL

3 P/P1F AC/H
JRC

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA
SCHOOL OF AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO



Santa Fe, New Mexico.

August 7, 1911.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

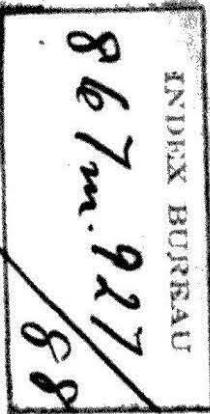
My dear sir:

Referring to our previous correspondence regarding the De Cou tragedy at Cyrene, I beg to ask that if any communication of importance is received during my absence from Washington, information concerning it may be sent to me at the above address.

With great respect,

Very truly yours,

Mitchell C. Cooke



AUG 14 1911
FILED

Augt Aug. 29, 1911

File Pl.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
August 28, 1911
AUG 29 1911
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

867 M. me 927
~~12/27/99~~

INDEX BUREAU

Can you give me
any further news about the
de Con affair? I have heard
nothing since I saw you a month
ago.

Sincerely yours,

Richard Norton.

(604 Shawmut Bank Bldg)

Boston
Mass.)

AUG 31 1911
FILED

August 29, 1911.

b9Z b6i m 128

Richard Norton, Esquire,
604 Shawmut Bank Building,
Boston, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Norton:

Your note of yesterday's date, asking what further news I can give you about the Cyrene matter, is at hand.

No reply has yet been received from the Italian Government to the Department's long note and memorandum of early July, other than the first acknowledgment which you saw when here. A full reply is of course awaited by us, and you will realize that the Department cannot treat this as an isolated case, but must handle it in conjunction with other matters at issue between the two Governments.

You will be promptly advised, directly or through Mr. Carroll, of any important developments in this matter, which continues to receive the very careful attention of the Department.

I trust that you will keep the Department informed of your contemplated departure from this country and of your plans to return to the work at Cyrene.

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.
PL

Sincerely yours,
Charles H. Griswold

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS



Sept. 6, 1911

Dear Clark,

This does not seem to get us any the furtherer.

Don't you think that an acknowledgement, with some eloquent words of thanks for the interest of the Royal Govt and the Charge, would make everybody happy?

Yrs truly:

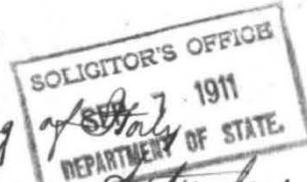
Wm. W.

Ack with thanks, but (I think) without any eloquence. Menly try to get somebody don't tell the truth is not the best evidence. J.W.K.
Sept. 6, 1911.

File

Translation

Embassy of H. M. the King of Italy
Manchester, Mass., September 1, 1911.



No 1604.

Confidential

To Secretary of State,

The Royal Ministry of Foreign affairs to which I hastened to forward the pro-memoria "relative to facts and circumstances in regard to the explorations of an American Archaeological Society in Cyrenaica" delivered to me by your Excellency with note N° 139 of July 5 last, has just informed me that it will enable to return an exhaustive answer as soon as it is in possession of all the information asked of the Royal consular authorities in Tripoli.

The Royal Ministry nevertheless deems me to remark, even now, that the insinuations against the Royal Consul Bernabei and the Italiots are the work of the local authorities which for political reasons that are certainly known to your Excellency never misses an opportunity to cast suspicion on and throw obstacles in the way of the peaceful expansion of Italy in those parts.

I feel confident that the points of fact already communicated to your Excellency in my note N° 1260 of July 9 last and the knowledge of the political reasons which shape the attitude of Turkey in Cyrenaica will suffice to dispel the erroneous impression that your department of state may

have derived from a review of the above mentioned
pro memoria.

I3. please to accept, Mr Secretary of State, the
expression of my highest consideration.

L. Negrotto Cambiaso

To His Excellency
The Hon. R. C. Winor
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

AMBASCIATA
DI S. M. IL RE D'ITALIA

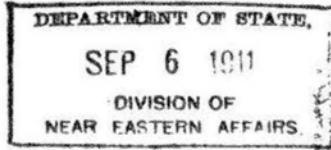
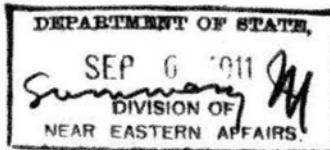


WASHINGTON,

Manchester, Mass. 1 Settembre 1911

No. 1604.

Riservato.



And Sept 12, 1911. Signor Segretario di Stato,
Filete

SEP 13 1911
FILED

Il R. Ministero degli Affari Esteri, al quale mi ero fatto premura di trasmettere il pro-memoria "sui fatti e sulle circostanze in relazione colle esplorazioni di una Societa Archeologica Americana in Cirenaica ", da Vostra Eccellenza rimessomi con Nota del 5 luglio u.s. - No. 139 -, mi ha teste` partecipato che mi porra` in grado di rispondervi esaurientemente non appena sara` in possesso di tutte le notizie chieste alle Regie Autorita` consolari in Tripolitania.

Il R. Ministero desidera tuttavia che io faccia, fin d'ora, osservare come le insinuazioni contro il Regio Console Bernabei e contro gli italiani, riportate in quel documento, siano l'opera delle Autorita` locali, le quali, per le ragioni politiche certamente a cognizione di Vostra Eccellenza, non mancano occasione per gettare il sospetto e creare imbarazzi all'espansione pacifica italiana in quelle regioni.

Nutro fiducia che i dati di fatto gia` comunicati a Vostra Eccellenza con la mia Nota del 9 luglio scorso, No. 1260 , e la conoscenza delle ragioni politiche che

A Sua Eccellenza
l'On. P. C. Knox
Segretario di Stato

Washington , D.C.

1121
[REDAZIONE]

determinano l'atteggiamento della Turchia in Cirenaica,
saranno sufficienti a dissipare le erronee impressioni che
questo Dipartimento di Stato avrà potuto ritrarre dalla
lettura del pro-memoria sopra citato.

Voglia gradire, signor Segretario di Stato,
l'espressione della mia più alta considerazione.

Agosto/autunno

867 m. 9/1

No. 181.

September 12, 1911.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the confidential note (No. 1604) of September 1st in which you inform me of your receipt of advices from the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs to the effect that an exhaustive answer will be made to this Department's note of July 5th last concerning certain facts and circumstances in regard to the American archaeological expedition to Cyrene, as soon as the Ministry is in possession of the information requested of the Italian Consular authorities in Tripoli.

06/22/26 msp/98

The Department

Mobile Lazzaro dei Marchesi Negrotto Cambiaso.

Charge d'Affaires of Italy.

The Department awaits with interest the further information which you are so good as to promise in behalf of your Government.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my high consideration.

HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

867 m. 927/90

3 MM/Pl
M JRC

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

Pl

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

File

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS



Sept. 8, 1911

Dear Clark,

Do you think
this is safe?

Frank J. Jr.

3

Why don't you send
copy of letter we
sent to Senator
Folger?

File

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.



Sept. 9, 1911

Dear Clark,

The last paragraph of this letter has been added at the suggestion of Mr Adee.

I have read over the letter to Sen. Lodge with a view to your suggestion that it might be copied to Rep. Weeks; and for my own part, I am inclined to think that it contains more than is required for Mr Weeks's purposes -- and perhaps so much as to mislead him into believing that the Department feels a special obligation towards him in this matter. But you're the judge.

Ans. Dr.

My only idea was to put in something to show him that in view of our own sympathies, this is not so easy as it looks,

JRC

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

File

Second Assistant Secretary's Room.

MEMORANDUM.

Sept. 9, 191

To 3

A telegram came in yesterday saying that the three persons had been committed for trial. That fact might be mentioned in this answer, thus bringing it up to date.

A.A.A.

I have not the tel. at hand -
but you can easily look it up.

L

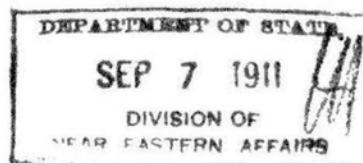
SIXTY-FIRST CONGRESS

JOHN W WEEKS, MASS., CHA RMAN
 JOHN J. CARDNER, N. J.
 NEHEMIAH D SPERRY, CONN.
 WILLIAM H STAFFORD, WIS.
 GEORGE F HUFF, PA.
 J. SLOAT FAISSETT, NY.
 SYLVESTER C. SMITH, CAL.
 FRANK O'LOWDEN, ILL.
 CYRUS DUREY, N.Y.
 THOMAS R. HAMER, IDAHO.

FRANCIS H DOODS, MICH.
 VICTOR MURDOCK, KANS.
 JOHN A. MOON, TENN.
 DAVID E. FINLEY, S.C.
 JAMES T. LLOYD, MO.
 JOHN H. SMALL, N.C.
 THOMAS M. BELL, GA.
 WILLIAM E. COX, IND.
 RALPH H. CAMERON, ARIZ.
 EDWIN L. WILLIAMS, CLERK

RECEIVED
SEP 7 1911
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
House of Representatives, United States,
Washington.

Committee on
The Post-Office and Post-Roads.
September 5, 1911



Ans'd Sept. 12, 1911.

File #

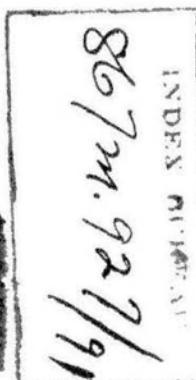
Hon. Philander C. Knox,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:--

There has already been called to your attention a case which has just been brought to mine, - that is, the murder of one Decou, an American citizen, near Bengazi, early this year. Some friends of mine in Boston have become interested in this case and have appealed to me to bring it once more to your attention. After going over the statement which they have made with considerable care, it seems to me to be a case where positive action might properly be taken by our government. If I understand the case correctly, Mr. Norton and Mr. Decou had authority from the Turkish Government to make the archaeological examinations which were under way and that Mr. Decou was shot in cold blood there seems to be no doubt, the possibilities being that Mr. Norton, however, was the person whose life was sought.

My informants state that the assassins are well known, that they are in the employ of the Italian Government and that positive action on the part of our government would undoubtedly bring them before the courts and to proper punishment. It seems to me that this would not only be just in

SEP 14 1911
FILED



SIXTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

JOHN W. WEEKS, MASS., CHAIRMAN.	FRANCIS H. DODDS, MICH.
JOHN J. GARDNER, N.J.	FRANCIS H. DODDS, MICH.
NEHEMIAH D. SPERRY, CONN.	VICTOR MURDOCK, KANS.
WILLIAM H. STAFFORD, WIS.	JOHN A. MOON, TENN.
GEORGE F. HUFF, PA.	DAVID E. FINLEY, S.C.
J. BLOAT FASBETT, N.Y.	JAMES T. LLOYD, MO.
SYLVESTER C. SMITH, CAL.	THOMAS M. BELL, GA.
FRANK O. LOWDEN, ILL.	WILLIAM E. COX, IND.
CYRUS DUREY, N.Y.	RALPH H. CAMERON, ARIZ.
THOMAS R. HAMER, IDAHO.	EDWIN L. WILLIAMS, CLERK

Committee on
The Post-Office and Post-Roads.
House of Representatives, United States,
Washington.

PCK..2

September 5, 1911

the case in hand, but would be of material influence in
the treatment which our citizens may expect in such local-
ties in future and I, therefore, hope that the case may be
given further consideration and the action sought may be
taken.

Yours very truly,



(M)

September 12, 1911

The Honorable John W. Weeks,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

The Department acknowledges the receipt of your letter of September 5, in which you refer to the murder of Mr DeCou near Benghazi, early this year, and suggest that positive action on the part of this Government, leading to the proper punishment of the assassins, would not only be just in this case, but would be of material influence upon the treatment which our citizens may expect in such localities in future.

In reply I have to inform you that in this case, which has received the most earnest consideration of this Department, such action has been taken as it is hoped will result in a favorable determination of the matter.

It may be added for your information that three tribesmen of that region have recently been committed for trial at Benghazi on a charge of complicity in this murder.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.



367.m.927/23
3 MM
M JRC

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

File

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

MEMORANDUM

867 M.927/92

September 15, 1911.

Dear Mr. McMurray:-

The legal status of this treaty with Tripoli was I think correctly set forth in the memorandum dated September 1, 1908 from this office. The conclusion therein reached was that the treaty with Tripoli was still in force.

Under these circumstances, my disposition would be to insist upon our treaty rights, but I realize that my knowledge of the local situation as well as of the attitude and habit of mind of the people concerned is so meager as to make my opinion upon this matter of little value.

Having in mind the way the Ottoman Porte has sought to capitalize our willingness under certain conditions to enter into an arrangement regarding the interpretation of Article 4 of the Treaty of 1830 with Turkey, I am inclined to think that we could not waive our rights of consular representation at the trial without serious prejudice to such rights.

JRC/DAD.

JRC

File

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.



September 11, 1911

Dear Clark,

The file[®] about our insistence upon the validity of the Tripoli Treaty of 1805 ends abruptly with the instruction to Constantinople to state this view when asking exequatur for Coffin (in 1908). Index is hunting down the chance that there may be something on the subject in the "personnel file" of Coffin or of Wood, the present incumbent at Tripoli.

Meanwhile, the status of the matter seems to be that Turkey disputes the present validity of this treaty, and we have re-asserted our contrary view.

The Constantinople Embassy does not seem (so far as I can find) to have considered this treaty in connection with the trial of the men committed for complicity in the DeCou case. Do you think they should be instructed to insist upon the presence of the Consul at the trial? And do you think that, in

⑧ [14863]

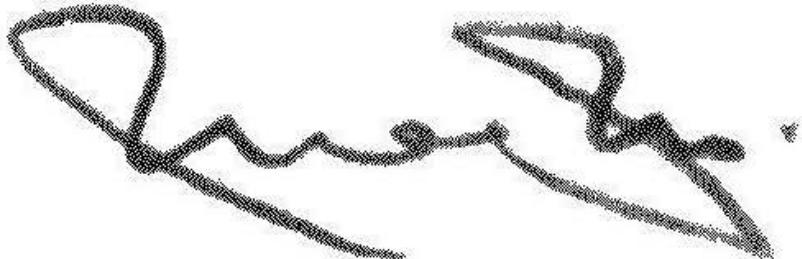


- 2

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

circumstances which might make it more politic (with reference to this particular case) to waive the right of consular representation at the trial, we might do so without prejudice to our rights under the treaty in question?



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. M. Green Jr."

No. 55.

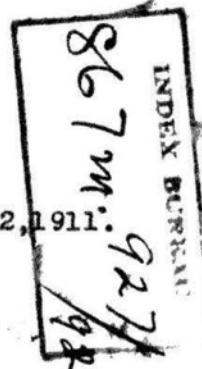


AMERICAN CONSULATE,

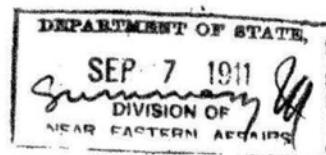
SEP 6 1911 Tripoli-in-Barbary, N.Africa, August 22, 1911.

DOLICITOR'S OFFICE
SEP 8 1911
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

3. 86



SUBJECT: LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IN RE MURDER OF
PROFESSOR DE COU.



THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

WASHINGTON.

SEP 29 1911
FILED

Mailed by telegram, Sept. 23, 1 p.m.
File Pl.

SIR:

Referring to the Consulate's No. 39 of May 30, 1911, I have to state that in an interview yesterday with the Procuratore Imperiale, I was informed that a most exhaustive examination had been made by the judicial officers at Derna, of witnesses in regard to the motives of said crime, with the result that no evidence could be secured implicating any Italians. For the same reason, lack of evidence, the Government has been forced to abandon the theory that the murder had been committed because the assassins claimed part of the land covered by the concession granted to the American Expedition, engaged in excavation work at Cyrene.

I was also informed by the Procuratore that the

three

three Arabs who had been arrested for complicity in said crime had been transferred to Benghazi, where the trial would immediately be held. I would add at this point that Victor Camilleri, chief interpreter and assistant of the American Expedition at Cyrene reported at the office on the 19th instant on his way to Malta, after spending a month at Cyrene, making preparations for the resumption of work during the month of October. He stated that there was a guard of about 65 soldiers at the camp; that the grave of the late Professor De Cou was properly looked after with a detail of gendarmes and that the Expedition's property was intact. He also said that no effort had been made to apprehend the murderers. He reported that two Italians were entertained by him at Cyrene, one of whom claimed to be an archeologist, but who in fact was Enrico Corradini, correspondent of L'IDEA NAZIONALE, a political journal published weekly at Rome. Articles are now appearing in this paper on Tripoli, written by Mr. Corradini, who urges that Italy must either act or give up the exploded idea of "peaceful penetration." He made this trip from Derna to Benghazi, without the authority of the Turkish officials, passing through the country where the murderers are now residing. Mr. Camilleri stated also that he was on the same steamer with said prisoners going from Derna to Benghazi, but that he was not allowed to speak with them, although he made the attempt to engage them in conversation.

I presume the Embassy is thoroughly informed about the steps of the Ottoman Government in regard to this trial and has taken measures to maintain our rights under Article XIX of the Treaty of 1805 with Tripoli. Unfortunately

the

No.55.

Tripoli,N.A.,8-22-'11.

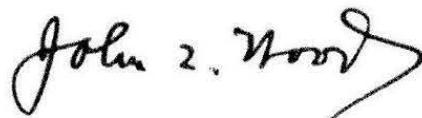
- 3 -

Ottoman Government is in a stronger position to maintain it's claim that said treaty is ineoperative,through our failure to have a representative here since 1882,with jurisdiction such as was previously enjoyed under Article XI of said Treaty. There is no doubt but what Article XIX contemplates the active presence of a Consul and the trial of said prisoners without a Consul assisting,will be an infringement of our rights under said Treaty. This point has evidently been considered by the Embassy, but on account of the possibility of it being overlooked,I respectfully call the attention of the Department to a consideration of the question.

A duplicate copy of this despatch is being forwarded to the Embassy for it's information and consideration.

I have the honor to be,Sir,

Your obedient servant,



American Consul.

TELEGRAM SENT. 3 MM/PL

Cipher 203



Department of State,

Washington, September 23, 1911. 1 P.M.

fed by

American Consul,

Tripoli-in-Barbary.

Your No. 55, August 22nd. Department has informed Turkish Embassy that while this Government is not prepared to yield its contention that 1805 Tripoli Treaty remains in force, yet, appreciating the sincere desire of the Ottoman Government to have justice done in the cases of those connected with the murder of DeCou, and desiring to avoid such action as might in any way embarrass the Porte in its prosecution of these cases, it has been willing to waive in this instance the right of consular assistance at these trials, for which provision is made in that Treaty,

867m. 92/92

Wilson.

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

Index Bu. - No. 50.

M., 1911

Sept 23, 1911 by boy to Wm.

e.c.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF
THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

B. M. Mac Murray

Please come
& see me about

this tomorrow

morning / PW

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.



DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

INDEX.

September 6, 1911

SEP
1911

DEPT. OF STATE

Mr Wilson:

Acting on your directions^{to Mr Fowle} concerning arrangements for sending a war-vessel to certain Turkish ports in the Mediterranean, I tried yesterday to consult Captain Potts of the Office of Naval Intelligence in regard to the vessels available. In his absence, I showed to his assistant (Lt.-Commander Whittlesey)^X your letter of August 26th to the Secretary on this subject; and, I asked, in advance of any more formal request, such preliminary information as could be furnished in regard to the arrangements which the Navy could make to meet the requirements of the case. Lt.-Com. Whittlesey^X promised such information on the return of Capt. Potts. In the meanwhile, he suggested that the Scorpion, now at Trieste, would serve the purposes the Department has in view: but I urged that with the object of impressing upon the minds of the Turks the seriousness of our concern for the protection of American interests, it would be desirable to send specially a much larger vessel than the small Scorpion, which is ordinarily stationed at Constantine. He said there was no other vessel in the waters of the Mediterranean or of the Eastern Atlantic. He also referred to the absence of safe anchorage, for any vessel of considerable size, at Derna or elsewhere in the neighborhood of Cyrene -- a matter which he said his office

(8) [Fullerwood]

had already looked into. And he further emphasized the probability of the vessel's movements being impeded by quarantine, on account of the prevalence of cholera in the various Turkish ports.

Commander Whittlesey came to see me this morning in behalf of Capt. Potts, and suggested that the need of a vessel in the vicinity of Cyrene about October 1st could be adequately met by sending the Scorpion. As for the other ports, he said that the scout-cruiser Chester (about 4000 tons), now in American waters, could be made available not later than September 20, and perhaps as early as the 15th inst. I intimated that if a more powerful vessel could be made available, it would serve a useful purpose as an exhibit of what our Navy is: He replied that we have nothing short of a Dreadnought which would serve the purpose better than the Chester, and that all the Dreadnoughts are needed for battle-practice from which none of them could well be spared.

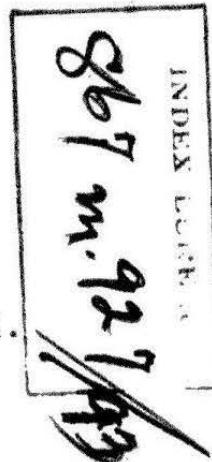
Upon my saying that I should of course refer the matter to you, he asked that your decision might be communicated as soon as possible, in order to allow time for the necessary preparations. He also asked that the Department's request to the Navy should specifically state whether the destination of the vessel (or vessels) on this service should be kept secret; he intimated that secrecy might be difficult in view of the special character of the supplies that would have to be taken aboard for such a voyage.

J.Y.A. [Signature]
⑧ [Fullamides]

*Yes answer
and may
PKL*

3

*File
main.*



August 26, 1911.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

You will recollect that Senator Lodge, Mr. Richard Norton, and others interested in the archaeological expedition at Cyrene, North Africa, have urged that a United States war vessel be ordered to visit North African waters about October 1st, which is the time when the expedition intends to resume operations, and thus prove to the Ottoman officials in that region as well as to the native Arab tribesmen that the United States Government intends to afford adequate protection to these citizens in their legitimate scientific work.

Mr. Carter, when in charge at Constantinople and also during a recent visit to Washington, also strongly endorsed the idea of despatching a vessel for this purpose, declaring that it should have very beneficial effect in arousing the Ottoman officials to apprehend and punish the murderers of Mr. DeCou and in dissuading the Arabs and others from further interference with this expedition.

I understand

I understand that this question of a naval vessel has been broached to the President, and that he has even mentioned such a possibility to the Secretary of the Navy.

If such a vessel is to visit Tripoli and other North African ports early in October, some preliminary arrangement should be made with the Navy Department in the very near future, at least to ascertain that some vessel will be available for this purpose. Will you therefore kindly indicate whether or not you wish that this be arranged; and, in case you wish it done, whether you desire the Department to take it up with the Navy Department, or whether you prefer to speak to the President about it.

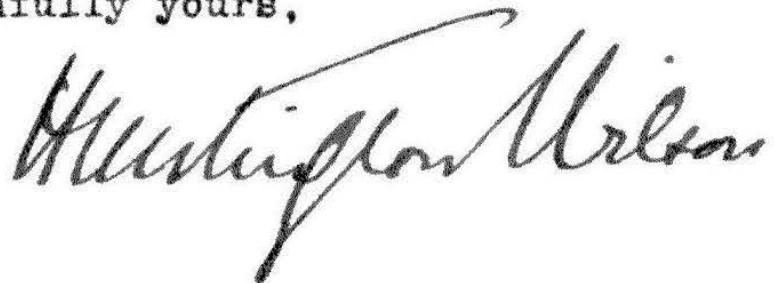
Of course the visit to North Africa, involving calls at the ports of Tripoli and Derna and also at the point nearest Cyrene, whence some of the officers could visit the excavations and thus be seen by the local tribesmen, could be made an incident of an extensive cruise in eastern Mediterranean waters, including visits at Alexandria, Beirut, Smyrna, Saloniki, Piraeus and other ports. To have a United States vessel seen at these Ottoman ports would have a very whole-

some

some effect on various American interests and enterprises.

I await an expression of your views regarding this matter.

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive ink, appearing to read "Huntington Wilson".

867 M 927/

3 F/PRF

August 26, 1911.

8/26/1911
W

Dear Mr. Secretary:

You will recollect that Senator Lodge, Mr. Richard Norton, and others interested in the archaeological expedition at Cyrene, North Africa, have urged that a United States war vessel be ordered to visit North African waters about October 1st, which is the time when the expedition intends to resume operations, and thus prove to the Ottoman officials in that region as well as to the native Arab tribesmen that the United States Government intends to afford adequate protection to these citizens in their legitimate scientific work.

Mr. Carter, when in charge at Constantinople and also during a recent visit to Washington, also strongly endorsed the idea of despatching a vessel for this purpose, declaring that it should have very beneficial effect in arousing the Ottoman officials to apprehend and punish the murderers of Mr. DeCou and in dissuading the Arabs and others from further interference with this expedition.

I understand

I understand that this question of a naval vessel has been broached to the President, and that he has even mentioned such a possibility to the Secretary of the Navy.

If such a vessel is to visit Tripoli and other North African ports early in October, some preliminary arrangement should be made with the Navy Department in the very near future, at least to ascertain that some vessel will be available for this purpose. Will you therefore kindly indicate whether or not you wish that this be arranged; and, in case you wish it done, whether you desire the Department to take it up with the Navy Department, or whether you prefer to speak to the President about it.

Of course the visit to North Africa, involving calls at the ports of Tripoli and Derna and also at the point nearest Cyrene, whence some of the officers could visit the excavations and thus be seen by the local tribesmen, could be made an incident of an extensive cruise in eastern Mediterranean waters, including visits at Alexandria, Beirut, Smyrna, Saloniiki, Piraeus and other ports. To have a United States vessel seen at these Ottoman ports would have a very whole-

some

3

some effect on various American interests and enterprises.

I await an expression of your views regarding this matter.

Faithfully yours,

HUNTINGTON WILSON

867 M 927/
3 P/P1 F.

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.



867 m. 927

September 9, 1911

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Navy.

Sir:

Referring to conversations which members of this Department have had with the Office of Naval Intelligence, I have now the honor to request that you will be so good as to instruct the Scout Cruiser CHESTER to proceed as soon as may be conveniently arranged to Derna, or to Benghazi, North Africa, in order to afford such countenance as may be appropriate upon the resumption of operations, early in October, by the American archaeological expedition engaged in the excavation of the ruins of Cyrene. I should be grateful for early information as to the arrangements which you may find it possible to make for this purpose, in order that the Department may communicate with the members of the expedition and so enable them to adapt their plans to your arrangements.

56726-1928

In communicating

In communicating to you the above request for the services of the CHESTER in the neighborhood of Cyrene, I feel it my duty to add, for your information, the statement that the situation of American interests in Turkey is such that this Department anticipates the possibility of having in the near future to address to you a request that the CHESTER be instructed to visit Beirut, Smyrna and Saloniki, and perhaps other ports of the eastern Mediterranean.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

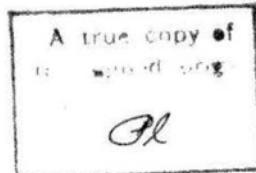
HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

867 m. 927/

3 MM/PB

M



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS



Sept. 14, 1911

Dear Clark,

Does this look all right to you? If it does (and perhaps I ought specially to call attention to the last two paragraphs) will you please have it go over to Mr Adee as soon as convenient?

Yours truly,
This seems O.K. except
possible question as to
the first paragraph.
McC

IN REPLY ADDRESS

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY,
AND REFER TO NO.

27593-119.

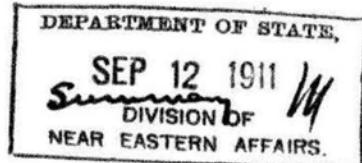
Op-F-C

3 AM.

8

NAVY DEPARTMENT.

WASHINGTON. September 11, 1911.



CHIEF CLERK

Amid Sept 15th
12 PM
Filed DEPT. OF STATE

Sir:-

In reply to the Department of State's letter No. 867 m. 927, of the 9th inst., I have the honor to advise you that the U. S. S. CHESTER has been detailed to visit Derna or Benghazi, Tripoli, in October in accordance with your request, and is expected to be in readiness to proceed from Boston about the 20th inst. Definite information as to when she can arrive at Derna will be communicated to you within a day or so.

With regard to the possibility of the CHESTER being desired to visit Beirut, Smyrna and Salonika, and perhaps other ports in the eastern Mediterranean, early and definite information is requested as to the wishes of the Department of State in the matter as certain arrangements must be made in advance. In this connection it is essential that the CHESTER should return to the United States by December 15th so that she will be available for certain other important duty previously arranged for.

Respectfully yours,

R. E. Lee
R. E. Lee
Acting Secretary of the Navy.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

TELEGRAM SENT.

3 MM



Department of State,

Washington, September 11, 1911 12 noon

Pabri

Amembassy,

Constantinople.

In order to afford such countenance and protection as seems requisite upon the resumption of operations by the Cyrene archaeological expedition, the Department has arranged for the scout/cruiser CHESTER to visit/Benghazi/or/Derna/about/October/tenth. In notifying the Sublime Porte of this intended visit, you may at your discretion take occasion to intimate/that the presence of this vessel will doubtless/ strengthen/the/hands/of the/Turkish authorities/in dealing with/local conditions, and/so/facilitate their apprehension/ and/punishment of/the/guilty/tribesmen/and/their further duty/of/securing/the/safety/of the/expedition/in future.

Confidential. In view of the disregard for American treaty rights exhibited by the Ottoman authorities in several instances, notably in the Erickson case at Elbasan and in the Ford case at Sidon, and in view of the Government's apparent connivance, under German influence, at the postponement of the concession to the Ottoman-American Development Company, the Department has under consideration the advisability of having the CHESTER proceed to Beirut, Smyrna, Saloniki, and perhaps other Turkish ports. The Department

desires

Enciphered by 13

Sent by operator Boy toll 116 Dept 1911 - 215P

Index Bu. - No. 50.

Constantinople - 2 TELEGRAM SENT.
Sept. 11

Department of State,

Washington,

desires to have your opinion and suggestions in regard to this proposal, with especial reference to its possible effects upon the consideration of the railway concession at the forthcoming session of Parliament. It is also desirable in this connection that you should keep the Department fully informed concerning the effect upon governmental and popular feeling of the despatch of the CHESTER to Tripoli-tania.

Wilson.

Enciphered by

Sent by operator M., . 191 ,

Index Bu. - No. 50.

TELEGRAM SENT.

3 MM



Department of State,

Washington, September 11, 1911 1 Pm

Pabby.

American Consul,

Tripoli.

With a view to affording countenance to Cyrene expedition upon its resumption of excavations, the Department has arranged to send cruiser CHESTER to Benghazi or Derna about October tenth. Do you consider it necessary that cruiser should call at Tripoli en route?)

Wilson.

46/126 - m 6 28

J

Enciphered by

Sent by operator Boykin, Sept 11, 1911. 215 P

Index Bu. - No. 50.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

Sept. 11, 1911

Mr Adeo:

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
These telegrams
(or something of the sort)
seem to me necessary as
supplements to the decision
to have the CHESTER
go to Derna or Benghazi.

The inquiry about
the plans of the expedi-
tion is addressed to both
Mr Norton and Prof. Car-
roll, as it is possible
that Norton (whose inform-
ation would doubtless be
the more full and precise)
may by this time have left
Boston.

Franklin.

Dear Wilson SEP 11 1911

These seem to
be O.K.

S

TELEGRAM SENT.

428140
3 MM

R. V.
INDEX BUREAU
SEP
Department of State,

DEPT. OF STATE
Washington,

September 11, 1911

Professor Richard Norton,
604 Shawmut Bank Building,
Boston, Mass.

Arrangements made for cruiser CHESTER to visit Benghazi or
Derna about October tenth. Kindly communicate to this
Department plans for your expedition's return to Cyrene.

Huntington Wilson
Acting Secy of State.

428140
S 11 1911
428140

Enciphered by _____

Sent by operator 1226 P.M., September 11, 1911

Index Bu. - No. 50.

TELEGRAM SENT.

48 Pd Gav.
3 MM



Department of State,

Washington, September 11, 1911

Professor Mitchell Carroll,

School of American Archaeology,

Santa Fé, New Mexico.

Arrangements made for cruiser CHESTER to visit Benghazi or Derna about October tenth. Kindly communicate to this Department plans for Norton expedition's return to Cyrene.

Mitchell Carroll
Acting Secy of State

8672m.92794

Enciphered by

Sent by operator 1219P Sep 11, 1911 2281f.

Index Bu. - No. 50.

File

SEP 15 1971

Dear Wilson

I am not disposed to
question the last para.

Very truly yours
E

(Letter & enclosures sent in duplicate.)

September 15, 1911.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Navy.

Sir:

I have the honor to express to you my thanks for the letter (reference no. 27593 - 119) of September 11th, in which you advise me that the U. S. S. CHESTER has been detailed to visit Derna or Benghazi, Tripoli, in October, in accordance with the request of this Department, and is expected to be in readiness to proceed from Boston about the 20th instant.

46/L26.112L98

It is understood that it is the intention of your Department to have the CHESTER proceed first to Malta, where she will arrive about October 5th and remain for several days, and will then be able to proceed to Derna, calling on her way at Benghazi in order to exchange the customary official courtesies with the Provincial Governor (Mutesserif) resident at that place.

This Department is now communicating with the members of the Cyrene expedition through Mr. Kelsey, Pres-

ident of

ident of the Archaeological Institute of America; and it is anticipated that it will prove possible to arrange that Mr. Allison Armour's yacht, the UTOWANA, by which the expedition is to be conveyed to Cyrenaica, shall join the CHESTER at Malta, and accompany her to Benghazi and thence to Derna.

In order that the Commander of the CHESTER may be fully informed as to the local situation which has made advisable the presence of an American war vessel upon the resumption of operations by the expedition, I enclose herewith, for the confidential information of your Department, a copy of a report by James Oliver Laing, American Consul at Malta, who was detailed by this Department to investigate the circumstances of the murder of Mr. DeGou, and a copy of a recent despatch from the American Consul at Tripoli which reports certain changes in the personnel of the Turkish local authorities and of the Italian consular representatives in Tripolitania. These despatches should be supplemented with the statement that on July 5 last this Department brought to the attention of the Italian Embassy those facts of the case, as known to this Government, which appeared to implicate certain members of the Italian consular service in North Africa, and requested that an investigation
be

be made of the conduct of these officials - particularly of Bernabei, the Italian Consul at Benghazi: the promised report of the Italian Government's investigations has not yet been received. It should also be stated that three persons have been committed for trial on a charge of complicity in the murder of DeCou; their trial is expected to take place at Benghazi about the middle of October; and the Turkish Government proposes to hold at the same time a trial, by default, of the actual murderers.

It is perhaps appropriate to add, for the further information of your Department, that the despatch of the CHESTER to Benghazi and Derna is regarded by this Department not as a demonstration against the Ottoman Government, but rather as a means of upholding the authority of that Government in dealing with the local situation, thereby strengthening it in its efforts to do justice in this particular case and to afford effective protection to the American expedition in future.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosures:

From American Consulates,

Malta, June 1, 1911;

Tripoli-in-Barbary, August 19, 1911.

867 m. 927/94

3 MM/Pl 

M

JRC

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

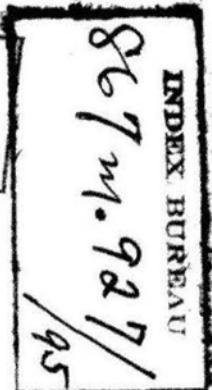
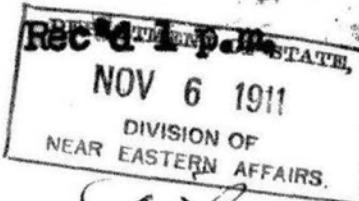
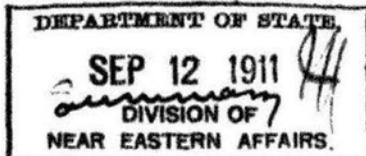
T.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

CIPHER

From Tripoli,

Dated Sept. 12, 1911



Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sept. 12, 4 p.m.
Not necessary.

WOOD

NOV 6 1911
FILED

Necessity for CHESTER to stop at Tripoli.

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

K

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

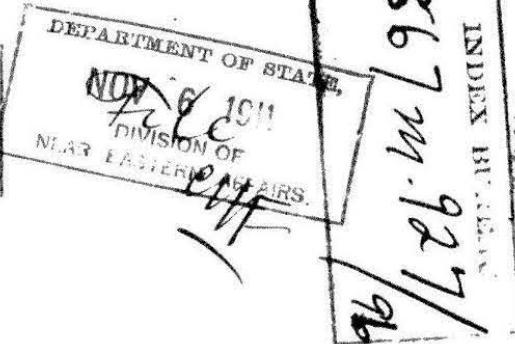
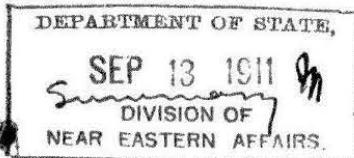
3 G. L.
CIPHER

From Pera,

Dated September 12 1911.

Rec'd 8 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.



September 12, 6 p.m.

Your telegram September 11, 12 noon. In reference to the Decou murder. On the fourth instant I requested the Grand Vizier to order another and more serious attempt to arrest the murderers who were well known and to suspend trial of three accomplices now under arrest and who were to be shortly tried at Bengazi, according to report of our Consul at Tripoli. The Grand Vizier said that as the arrest of actual murderers might yet require much time, to prolong indefinitely imprisonment without trial of those now under arrest seemed unjustifiable. Their trial could begin and also that of actual murderers by default. He said that he would inquire further. In reply to my inquiries British Consul Bengazi wires me trial of accomplices will begin in about a month. I have wired him report names of alleged accomplices under arrest and those of principals still at large and whether proceedings for trial by default of the latter have been

NOV 6 1911
FILED

Deciphered by

instituted

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

Sheet 2 Pera, September 12th, 1911, 6 p.m.

instituted. I suggest that no definite date be fixed for visit of CHESTER until I can report more fully on present state, a week should be sufficient, I think. I have had a rather promising conversation with the Grand Vizier on the Elbasan land transfer case.

R O C K H I L L

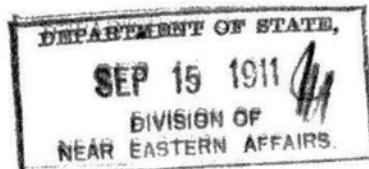
Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

K

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

3 G. S.
C I P H E R



From Tripoli, Africa,

Dated September 14 1911.

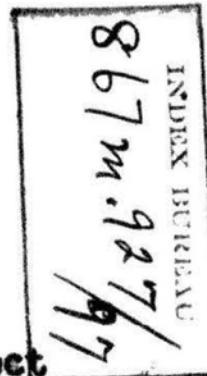
Rec'd 2:41 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

September 14, 6 p.m.

Call at Tripoli would have negative effect
regarding expedition. Governor of Benghazi independent
of Tripoli. Port likely to be quarantined, not yet infected.

W O O D.

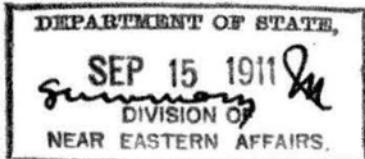


FILED
MAY 11 1913

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

T.



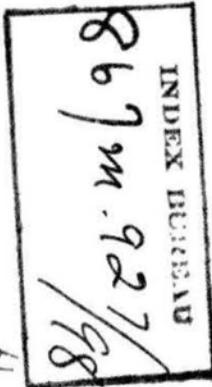
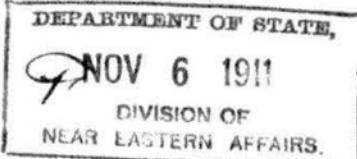
TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

3 9 Lm
CIPHER

From Pera,

Dated Sept. 15, 1911

Rec'd 8:30 a.m.



Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sept. 15, 12 noon.

Today's local newspapers publish statement of Washington newspapers to the effect that cruiser CHESTER is to be sent to Tripoli to protect American expedition to Cyrene and to bring pressure on the Porte to obtain satisfaction for murder.

ROCKHILL

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

TELEGRAM SENT.

3 MM

2 8GR

H M
Department of State,

Washington, September 14, 1911

Mr Francis W. Kelsey,
Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Navy suggests UTOWANA should join CHESTER at Malta, instead of
Gibraltar, between fifth and tenth October.

Winston M. Kellogg

Acting Secretary of State

286/126 - 1911

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

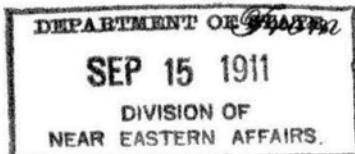
Index Bu. - No. 50.

3 12P Sept 14, 1911 Q.W.F.

To



TELEGRAM RECEIVED.



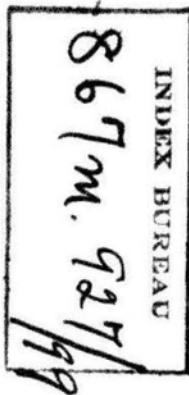
Ann Arbor, Mich.,

Sept. 15, 1911

Rec'd 11:40 a.m.

The Honorable
Huntington Wilson,
Department of State,
Washington.

File



Thanks for telegram. Have cabled Armour. Will
transmit reply promptly.

F R A N C I S W . K E L S E Y

MAR 11 1913
FILED

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

Op-F-C

4070-180; NAVY DEPARTMENT.

WASHINGTON. September 16, 1911.

INDEX BUREAU
SEP
19
1911

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
SEP 19 1911
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

Sir:-

RECD. IN STA

To Francis W. Kellogg, Sept. 20, 1911.

To Am. Consul, Tripoli, Sept. 21, 1911.

To Am. Consul, Malta, Sept. 21, 1911.

Amd. Sept. 27, 1911. File Re

CHIEF CLERK

SEP 19 1911

DEPT. OF STATE

867 m. 927/94

INDEX BUREAU

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Department of State's letter No. 867 m. 927/94, of the 15th inst., with enclosure, relative to the American Archaeological Expedition which is engaged in excavations at Cyrene, Tripoli. The CHESTER has been directed to sail from Boston on the 20th inst., for Malta, to arrive by October 5th if practicable, and to confer with the American Consul at that place and also with the leader of the expedition referred to above. The CHESTER will then proceed to Benghazi and thence to Derna in accordance with your request.

A copy of all the correspondence on this subject has been furnished the Commanding Officer of the CHESTER for his information.

Respectfully yours,

C. J. Mullaney
Acting Secretary of the Navy.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

September 20, 1911.

Mr. Francis W. Kelsey,

President, Archaeological Institute of America,

Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Sir:

There is enclosed for your information a copy of a letter which has been received from the Navy Department in regard to the despatch of the U. S. S. CHESTER to North Africa, for the purpose of affording to the American archaeological expedition engaged in the excavation of Cyrene such countenance as may be appropriate upon the resumption of its operations. There are also enclosed confirmation copies of your telegram of yesterday's date and this Department's telegraphic reply of today's date, in regard to the discretion allowed to the Commander of the CHESTER, and the date of the arrival in Malta of Mr. Armour's yacht, the UTOWANA.

00/006.116799

The Department would be grateful for the exercise of your good offices in arranging that the expedition

may

(Duplicate of memo.
attached to letter.)

Correction -

Enclosure from
Navy Department, listed
as September 21, 1911,
should be September 16,
1911.

2

may adapt its plans to the arrangements indicated in
this communication from the Navy Department and in this
Department's telegram to you.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosures:

From Navy Department,
September 21, 1911;
Telegram from Francis W. Kelsey,
September 19, 1911;
Telegram to Francis W. Kelsey,
September 20, 1911.

867 m. 927/100

3 MM/P1
M

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

96700-927
No. 16.

September 31, 1911.

James Oliver Laing, Esquire,

American Consul,

Malta, Maltese Islands.

Sir:

In view of the murder of Mr. Herbert F. DeCon at Cyrene in March last, the Department has judged it advisable to arrange that the U. S. S. CHESTER should accompany the archaeological expedition and afford it such countenance as may be appropriate upon the resumption of its operations in Tripolitania. There is enclosed for your information a copy of a communication from the Navy Department, under date of the 16th instant, outlining the plans which have been agreed upon for that purpose.

C 07/12/26 - MBL/98

It is anticipated that Mr. Allison Armour's yacht, the UTOWANA, which is to convey to North Africa the members of the Cyrene expedition, will join the CHESTER at Malta on October 12th or earlier. In this connection there are enclosed copies of telegrams exchanged between this Department and Mr. Kelsey, President of the Archaeological Institute of America.

It is

It is particularly desired that you give this Department prompt information in case of cholera or other quarantinable diseases at Malta which might interfere with the proposed plans of the CHESTER and of the archaeological expedition.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For Mr. Knox:

ALVEY A. ADEE

Enclosures:

From Navy Department,
September 16, 1911;
Telegram from Francis W. Kelsey,
September 19, 1911;
Telegram to Francis W. Kelsey,
September 20, 1911.

867 m. 927/100

3 MM/Pl
M

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.



807 m. 9/27
No. 29.

September 21, 1911.

John Q. Wood, Esquire,
American Consul,
Tripoli-in-Barbary,
North Africa.

Sir:

In view of the murder of Mr. Herbert F. DeCou at Cyrene in March last, the Department has judged it advisable to arrange that the U. S. S. CHESTER should accompany the archaeological expedition and afford it such countenance as may be appropriate upon the resumption of its operations in Tripolitania. There is enclosed for your information a copy of a communication from the Navy Department, under date of the 16th instant, outlining the plans which have been agreed upon for that purpose.

C 9/26 m. 9/28

It is anticipated that Mr. Allison Armour's yacht, the UTOWANA, which is to convey to North Africa the members of the Cyrene expedition, will join the CHESTER at Malta on October 12th or earlier. In this connection there are enclosed copies of telegrams exchanged between this Department and Mr. Kelsey, President of the Archaeological Institute of America.

It is

File
Dowd Jr.

Translation

Professor Norton, head of the American Archaeological Expedition to Cyrenaica sent to the London Times a letter that has been published in one of its last issues. Mr. Norton presumed to question the grievances of Italy against Turkey, including the murder of Father Giustino which he would make it appear was on account of women. He seeks, at the same time, to arouse the suspicions of the English public as to the dangers which occupation by a power party to the Triple Alliance would mean to Great Britain.

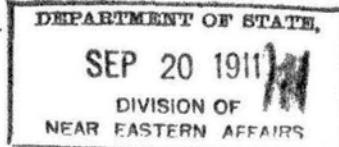
3 G Do

T.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

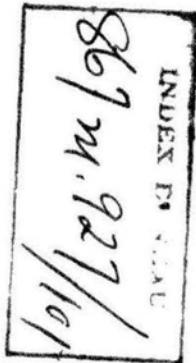


To Am. Consul, Malta,
Tripoli
Sept. 21, 1911



Lt. J. T. Tal. to
Mr. Kelsey,
Sept. 20.
File. Done Jr.

The Honorable
Huntington Wilson,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.



In arranging with Navy Department for CHESTER to call with UTOWANA at Tripoli and other points will you kindly leave considerable freedom of movement to the Commander on account of possible spread of cholera and consequent quarantine? Armour cables expect arrive Malta about October twelfth.

NOV 4 1911
FILED

F R A N C I S W. K E L S E Y

Deciphered by

Index Bu. -- No. 51.

INDEX BUREAU
SEP
120
1911
DEPT. OF STATE

TELEGRAM SENT.

3 MM

Zb P. Hoyt

BWU

Department of State,

Washington,

September 20, 1911

*87 m. 927
10/126 m 198*

Francis W. Kelsey,

Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Navy has authorized commander of CHESTER to use reasonable discretion in cooperation with expedition. Matters would be expedited by UTOWANA'S arrival Malta before October twelfth.

*Martiniflor Wilson
Acting Secy of State*

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

120 P Sept 20, 1911, 36 Ma

Index Bu.—No. 50.

3 P.M.

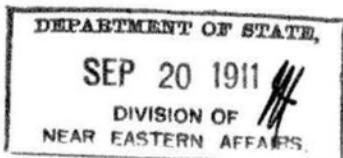
TELEGRAM RECEIVED. CIPHER.

B.



From Pera,

Dated Sept. 19, 1911,
Rec'd Sept. 20, 8:30 a. m.



Secretary of State,
Washington.

September 19, 5 p. m.

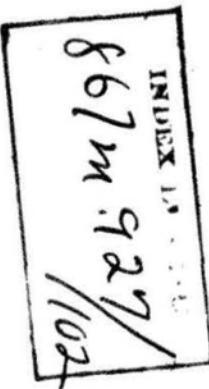
In continuation of my telegram of September 12, 6 p. m., British Consul Bengazi informs me trial by default of the two assassins will take place simultaneously with that of three accomplices after Ramazan Fast which ends this week. I have directed Consul to follow trial carefully and report fully to the Embassy. I am of the opinion that under the circumstances the visit ~~to~~ to Bengazi of the CHESTER would serve no useful purpose. I am also of opinion that if a squadron should be cruising in the Mediterranean this autumn it would produce an excellent effect if it call at various Ottoman ports including Tripoli. The report in the local newspaper of the proposed visit of the CHESTER appears to have caused surprise in official circles which claim that Porte has used due diligence in bringing the culprits to trial.

Deciphered by

I have

Index Bu.—No. 51.

MAR 11 1913
FILED



TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

2nd from Pera, Sept 19, 5 p. m.

I have not yet notified Grand Vizier of the proposed visit
of CHESTER. Further instructions are requested.

R O C K H I L L .

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

H. LODGE, CHAIRMAN.
E. T. CLARK, CLERK.



United States Senate,

SENATE BUREAU
SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION.

SEP
121
1911

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

SEP 21 1911

Noah D.

DIVISION OF

NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

My dear Mr. Wilson:

Nahant, Mass.,

September 19, 1911.

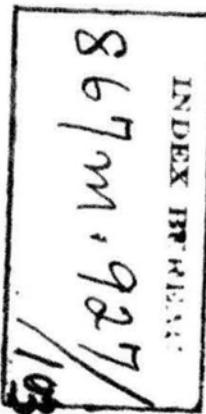
File. *[Handwritten signature]*

Thank you very much for your letter of the 11th in regard to affairs in Cyrene. I am exceedingly glad that the CHESTER is going to Derna and I feel sure that this will make certain the safety of the expedition next year. You may be sure that I deeply appreciate all that the Secretary and yourself have done in this matter.

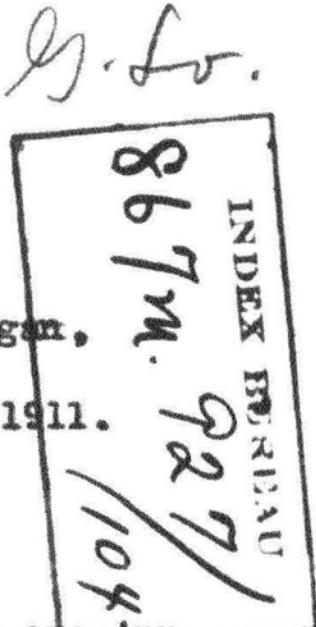
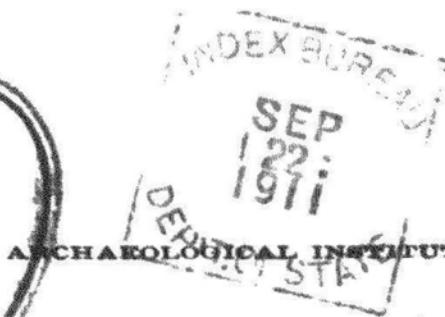
Very sincerely yours,

H. C. Lodge

Hon. Huntington Wilson,
State Department.



NOV 4 1911
FILED



Ann Arbor, Michigan.

September 20, 1911.

*File
Senate*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

SEP 23 1911 *M*

DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

Sir:

I have the honor to report that last evening

I received from Mr. Allison V. Armour the following cablegram in regard to the movements of the "Utowana":
"Expect arrive Malta about October twelve."

I immediately transmitted this to you in a night letter in which reference was made also to the desirability of leaving as much latitude as possible to the commander of the "Chester" on account of the possible sudden appearance of cholera at Tripoli, Bengazi, Derna, Marsa Sousa, or other points at which it might be deemed advisable for the vessels to call.

The night letter is here repeated for confirmation:

"In arranging with Navy Department for

SEP 28 1911
FILED

"Chester" to call with "Utowana" at Tripoli and other points, will you kindly leave considerable freedom of movement to the commander on account of possible spread of cholera and consequent quarantine? Armour cables expect arrive Malta about October twelve."

Very truly yours,

Francis W. Kelsey

The Honorable Huntington Wilson,

Department of State.

SEP

13

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

2nd ASSY.Mr Adey:)
Mr Wilson:)

September 13, 1911

Mr F. W. Kelsey, President of the Archaeological Institute of America, called day before yesterday to inquire about the plans for the despatch of the CHESTER to Benghazi or Derna. I told him what steps were being taken, emphasizing the fact that the purpose of sending the cruiser is not a demonstration directed against the Turkish Government, but is rather a means of strengthening its hands in dealing with the local situation. He said that he would communicate by cable with Mr Allison Armour, whose yacht is to take the expedition back to Cyrene, with a view to having him accommodate his plans to those of the CHESTER.

Mr Kelsey called again to-day, and I explained to him more in detail the recent developments in the DeCou case. He suggested that the CHESTER should call (unless prevented by cholera) at Tripoli, Benghazi, Derna, and Malta --- the officers, while at Derna, visiting the excavations at Cyrene. I explained that in view of yesterday's telegram from Constantinople (urging that the date of the visit be not fixed till further advices), and other possible exigencies of this Department and of the Navy, no precise plan could be arranged just yet; and that the final arrangements might require the expedition to make some modifications in its plans. He assured me that the expedition, realizing that the Department is doing everything for its assistance,

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

would gladly accommodate itself to any plans that might be decided on. He only urged that the resumption of work at Cyrene be not delayed beyond Oct. 20. I then suggested that Mr Armour's yacht might join the CHESTER at Gibraltar (where she will probably arrive about Oct. 5), and accompany her to Derna (perhaps via Tripoli and Benghazi). He approved this suggestion and promised to cable it to Mr Armour.

Mr Kelsey has returned to Ann Arbor, but promises to keep us fully and promptly informed of such information as he receives from Mr Armour or the other members of the expedition.

It is my own impression that (cholera permitting) it would be well for the CHESTER to stop at Tripoli en route to Derna, and ~~make~~ pay its respects to the retiring Vali (who has apparently done all in his power to assist and protect the expedition) or to the newly-appointed Vali (who may be in need of conviction as to this Government's interest in the expedition). In reply to a question as to the necessity of such a visit, the Consul telegraphs in the negative; he does not state whether or not it is advisable.

Enc. B.

TELEGRAM SENT.

3 MM

u.s.
S.P.
13
1911
2NDAY

Department of State,

Paddy 4 pm

Washington, September 15, 1911

INDEXED
SEP 15 1911

DEPT. OF STATE

American Consul,

Tripoli.

Department's telegram September 11, 1:00 P.M. Would it be
advisable to have CHESTER call at Tripoli, perhaps accompanied
by members of Cyrene expedition, to pay respects to retiring or
to new Vali? Is port quarantined, or apparently likely to be?

Wilson.

{ Signed by actg }

807 m. 9 22/10 4a

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

54pm Sept 13, 1911, Exr Jo.

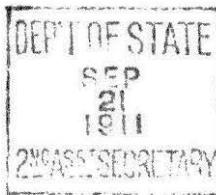
Index Bu.—No. 50.

P.C.

TELEGRAM SENT.

3 MM

53GK



Department of State,

Washington, September 21, 1911

American Consul,

Tripoli.

Cruiser CHESTER due at Malta about October fifth, to be joined by Armour yacht with members of Cyrene archaeological expedition, which it will accompany to Benghazi and Derna between October twelfth and twentieth. Notify the Department and Consul at Malta immediately in case of quarantine at Benghazi or Derna.

Wilson.

h o l / 1 e b . m / 28
2

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

1235 P. Sept 21, 1911, 35 J. S.

Index Bu.—No. 50.

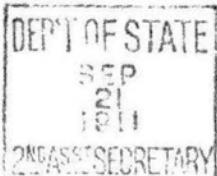
F. 2

TELEGRAM SENT.

3 MM



479R



Department of State,

Washington, September 21, 1911

3 M

Ha

American Consul,

Malta.

Cruiser Chester due at Malta about October fifth, to be joined by Armour yacht with members of Cyrene archaeological expedition, which it will accompany to Benghazi and Derna between October twelfth and twentieth. Notify the Department immediately in case of quarantine at Malta.

Wilson.

867 m 627/104C

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

Index Bu.—No. 50.

1237P Sept 21, 1911 36 JG

P.C

AIDE-MÉMOIRE.

In reference to the personal inquiries made at the Department of State by the Ottoman Ambassador this morning, concerning the despatch of the Cruiser CHESTER to North African waters, the Acting Secretary of State sought to make clear the fact that this action was not intended to be in any sense a demonstration vis-a-vis the Ottoman Government, but was intended to make evident to the local population of that region the real interest of the United States in this scientific expedition, and thus was regarded rather as a means of affording to the archaeological expedition engaged in the exploration of the ruins of Cyrenaica such countenance as might be appropriate upon the resumption of its work, thereby facilitating the task of the Turkish authorities in dealing with a local situation reported to present a variety of complications.

In supplementing the above, which is the substance of the conversation of this morning, the Acting Secretary of State wishes to add that the fact that the course of this Government is actuated by an earnest desire to assist rather than to impede the action of the Turkish Government in this matter, is further evidenced by this

Department's

To the Imperial Ottoman Embassy,

Department's refraining from any reference to the question as to the legal process applicable to those persons committed for trial on charges arising out of the murder of Mr. DeCou: for while this Government is not prepared to yield its contention that its Treaty of 1805 with Tripoli remains in force, yet, appreciating the sincere desire of the Ottoman Government to have justice done in these cases, and desiring to avoid such action as might in any way embarrass the Porte in its prosecution of the guilty parties, it has been willing to waive in this instance the right of consular assistance at the trials, for which provision is made by Article 19 of that Treaty.

Department of State,

Washington, September 22, 1911.

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

September 21, 1911.



Mr. Wilson:

The principal matters now under discussion with the Ottoman Government are as follows:

1 - The protection of the Cyrene archaeological expedition (involving the questions of the despatch of the U. S. S. CHESTER to Benghazi and Derna, the trial of persons connected with the murder of DeCou, and the assistance of the American Consul at Tripoli at that trial).

2 - The Chester railway concession (involving the question of the right of forum).

3 - The Erickson land transfer case at Elbasan.

4 - The trial of Dr. Ford on a criminal charge by the Turkish authorities at Sidon (involving the question of the right of forum).

1 - The CHESTER has sailed for Malta, where it is expected that she will be joined by Mr. Armour's yacht, in time to reach Derna before October 20th. The Commander has been instructed by the Navy Department to use all reasonable discretion in cooperating with the members of the archaeological expedition. The CHESTER will first call at Benghazi to pay its respects to the Governor;

File
copy

867M.927/10

MAR 11 1913
FILED

the Governor; and it is then proposed to accompany the yacht to Derna and to remain there long enough for some of the officers to visit the excavations. The Department's telegraphic instructions to the Embassy suggested that this visit of the CHESTER to North Africa should be represented to the Turkish authorities not as a demonstration against the Ottoman Government, but rather as a means of strengthening the hands of the central Government in dealing with the local situation. It appears that the Embassy had not, on September 19th, notified the Porte of the intended visit of the CHESTER to North Africa.

The Embassy is informed that three persons committed on a charge of complicity in the murder of DeCou will be tried at Benghazi in the immediate future. The trial of the actual assassins, in absentia, will take place simultaneously.

The Consul at Tripoli has suggested that under the terms of our Treaty of 1805 with Tripoli, the Consul should assist at this trial. Turkey has hitherto contended, and this Government has denied, that this Treaty is no longer in force. I have consulted Mr. Clark on this question, and it is his opinion that we would virtually yield our contention as to the continuing validity of the Tripoli Treaty if we did not either have the Consul assist at the trial or else make a waiver of our rights in this particular case, with reserves as to the general principle. My own view favors the latter alternative.

Apart

Apart from the practical inconvenience of sending the Consul from Tripoli to Benghazi, I fear that such action would, in connection with the visit of the CHESTER, seem to be forcing the Turkish Government pretty hard in a matter in which they have hitherto shown good will, if not great resolution. The Archaeological Institute seems to be rather anxious that nothing should be done to alienate the favor with which the Constantinople authorities have regarded their work. A more cogent reason, as it seems to me, is that an insistence upon the presence of our Consul at the trial would afford the Turkish Government an excellent opportunity (of which it would doubtless be glad to avail itself if we had seemed to be pressing them too hard) to postpone the trial until the end of an endless discussion about the Tripoli Treaty: and even if an end to that discussion could be hoped for, there would still be the further question as to the right of our Consul at Tripoli to act officially outside of that vilayet. If you accept this view of the matter, I venture to suggest that the call of the Turkish Ambassador would afford a convenient occasion for stating that while this Government is not prepared to accept a different view from what it has hitherto held concerning the validity of the Tripoli Treaty of 1805, yet in the present instance, recognizing the sincere desire of the Ottoman Government to do justice in the case of the murderers of DeCou, and being

unwilling

unwilling to take any action which might impede or embarrass the Turkish Government in this case, it will not insist upon the consular representation at this trial, which is contemplated by the terms of that Treaty.

2 - The Chester railway concession. - From the Department's point of view this project is in abeyance until the reassembly of Parliament next month. The American syndicate has informed the Department that it will meanwhile send to Constantinople a fully empowered representative (understood to be Mr. Colt).

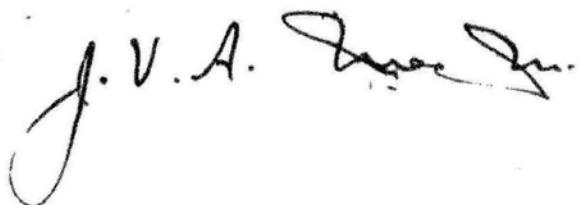
The concurrent discussion of the right of forum has meanwhile been discontinued.

3 - The present status of the Erickson case is unsatisfactory. This Government having suggested that what appeared to be a personal objection to Erickson might be overcome by arranging for the transfer of the land to the mission society, the Turkish Government has raised objections to such transfer to a corporation. There has also been made evident a strong personal feeling against the representatives of the mission. The Embassy advises insistence upon completion of the transfer to Erickson.

4 - The Turkish authorities appear to have quashed all proceedings against Dr. Ford for illegally tearing down a tax notice on the mission property at Sidon. The Embassy has

instructed

instructed the Consulate-General to try the case if complaint is presented by the Turkish officials, and has intimated that Dr. Ford should express regret for what was in fact an illegal action on his part. The matter is, therefore, interesting only because in the course of discussion the Porte urged that in the discussion of the right of forum in connection with the Chester concession this Government had conceded the Turkish interpretation of Article IV.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. V. A. Doane Jr."

Memorandum of conversation with
the Ottoman Ambassador.

September 22, 1911.

The Ottoman Ambassador, Zia Pacha, called by appointment, which he sought, at 10 this morning. He began by inquiring in rather an earnest and surprised manner what the sending of the "Chester" meant. To the inquiry made in this somewhat challenging manner, I quietly replied that this Government desired to show a certain amount of interest in the Expedition; that the sending of the ship was in no sense a demonstration vis'a vis the Ottoman Government; that, although no results had yet been accomplished, this Government cordially appreciated the energetic steps taken by the Government at Constantinople; that it was of course well known and clear through the conversations between Ottoman officials and our Embassy that the locality concerned was a very far away one where the inhabitants were also somewhat turbulent; that, in view of what had occurred, we had thought it a good thing to exhibit interest in the Expedition and had thought that by sending the ship we would be of some service in facilitating the efforts of the Ottoman Government. I remarked that the Ambassador had probably heard certain rumors of Italian prejudice against the Expedition, a good deal of effort having been made even through speeches in the Italian Chamber to give the impression that it was not scientific but was in search of mines etc., - such unfounded reports having the effect of prejudicing the Italian public opinion against the Expedition. I remarked that there had even been rumors that certain Italian consular officers were in sympathy with the tendency of the inhabitants of the locality to obstruct in any way the Expedition. I pointed out that this of course was a matter of the greatest delicacy and was only report, although we had made some little intimation informally to the Italian Government on the subject. I remarked that I thought it possible that some of the Italian consular officers in the locality might be changed.

The

The Ambassador took so serious a tone in his inquiries about the "Chester" that I said that, in view of the tone he took, I thought I ought to ask him whether he was under instructions to protest against sending the "Chester", - without answering the question he made a remark about its being his duty to uphold Ottoman interests; I then said that the matter had been discussed between our Embassy and the Ottoman authorities, that there seemed to be not the least misunderstanding, that the last thing we had wished was to do anything in the least degree disagreeable to the Ottoman Government. The Ambassador then admitted that he had received no instructions whatever, but, having seen in the newspapers that the "Chester" was going and himself thinking it would have a bad effect, he had desired to speak of the matter. I said I was sorry that he held this personal opinion and that he would readily understand my feeling shocked to receive the impression, at first, that his Government had directed ~~me~~ him to make objection to the "Chester's" voyage, because if that had been so it would mean that our Embassy, after being instructed to make the whole matter plain to the Ottoman Government, had failed in some way to give us accurate information. The Ambassador then asked me whether we had informed his Government that we were going to send the "Chester" and I said, "Yes" - he said that that of course made the matter different.

In the general effort to minimize the "Chester's" mission and bring out its ordinary and friendly character I told the Ambassador that I understood the Expedition would go about October 12th, that the Commander of the "Chester" would just pay a visit to the Governor at Benghazi, that the "Chester" would then show itself at Derna and that that was all there was to it. He thanked me for this information and I have the impression that his misapprehensions were mostly relieved.

The Ambassador spoke of his keen desire to cooperate for the best interests of both countries, expressed concern at the effect the "Chester's" visit might have, and intimated that he thought that there would be an

interpellation

interpellation in their Parliament, and called attention to the rather trivial fact that the cruiser had the same name as the gentleman who had represented the MacArthur railway project, this being a factor in the case.

At first the Ambassador said he would write to his Government the substance of our interview, later he proposed to send a telegram. He seemed a good deal interested in the Italian rumors; spoke of the helplessness of his Government in not having a steamship or postal service to that part of the Empire, and with regard to a possible change of Italian consular officers he expressed the opinion that whether changed or not they would always be the same in their attitude. I laid great emphasis on the fact that what I had said about any Italian factor in the situation was said confidentially, must be treated as such, and must be remembered to be mere rumor and without proof. I repeatedly emphasised the delicacy of this question.

The Ambassador asked me if we had made any notification to the Italian Government, I said of course not since the place visited was a part of the Ottoman Empire.

No.

September 28, 1911.

The Honorable

William W. Rockhill,

American Ambassador,

Constantinople.

Sir:

There are enclosed herewith, for your information and for the files of the Embassy, copies of a memorandum of a conversation between the Acting Secretary of State and the Ottoman Ambassador on September 22nd, and of an Aide-Mémoire transmitted by the Department to the Ottoman Embassy on the same date, in regard to the despatch of the U. S. S. CHESTER to Benghazi and Derna.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

927/106
rec'd 27/9/06

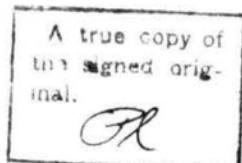
Enclosures:

Memorandum, September 22, 1911;
To Ottoman Embassy, September 22, 1911.

867 m. 927/104d,106

3 MM/Pl

M





TELEGRAM SENT. 3 MM/Pl



Department of State,

Washington, September 22, 1911. 5pm

Peggy

Amembassy,

Constantinople.

It has been necessary to arrange for the cruiser CHESTER to accompany the Cyrene expedition upon its return to North Africa in the middle of October, in order to make evident to the local population of that region and also to those foreign interests which have been rumored as distrusting and not wishing well to the expedition the real interest of the United States in this scientific enterprise and the readiness of this Government to uphold and protect its citizens in their legitimate pursuits.

Having acted on the assumption that you had complied with the instruction of September 11, 12 noon, to inform the Porte of this decision, the Department has noted with surprise the statement, in your telegram of September 19, 5 p. m., that you had not yet notified the Grand Vizier of the proposed visit of the CHESTER. If it is possible that you have not already done so, it is desired that you immediately inform the Porte that the CHESTER will arrive at Malta about October fifth, and about the thirteenth will proceed with Armour yacht to Benghazi for exchange of official visits with the Governor, and thence to Derna, for a few days only, arriving before the twentieth. These plans have

Enciphered by K. H. B.

been

Sent by operator M., September 22, 1911.

Index Bu.—No. 50.

2901/126-M-628

been communicated to Turkish Ambassador, who called this morning to inquire about the despatch of the CHESTER, without however being instructed by his Government to do so. It was explained to him that the cruiser's visit to North Africa was in no sense intended as a demonstration against the Ottoman Government, although not yet effective, the cordiality and energy of whose efforts were warmly appreciated, but rather as a means of facilitating the task of the Turkish authorities in dealing with a local situation complicated by extraneous influences. In an aide-mémoire which the Department is addressing to the Turkish Ambassador, it is further pointed out that this Government's desire to assist by a sign of interest the action of the Turkish authorities in this case is evidenced by the fact that, while not prepared to yield its contention that the 1805 Treaty with Tripoli remains in force, yet appreciating the sincere desire of the Ottoman Government to have justice done in these cases, and desiring to avoid such action as might in any way embarrass the Porte in its prosecution of these cases, it has been willing to waive in this instance the right of consular assistance at these trials, for which provision is made by Article Nineteen of that treaty.

It should be easy to prevent any misunderstanding or feeling detrimental in the least to our interests as a result of the CHESTER'S brief visit, and the Department must rely upon the skill and tact of the Embassy to be responsible for safeguarding these points, which are especially important with the railway concession pending.

JH13

With

With reference to suggestion in your telegram of September 19, 5 p. m., Department is informed that on account of cholera there is no likelihood that a squadron will be cruising in the Mediterranean this autumn. Under these circumstances, do you consider it advisable to have CHESTER alone visit other Turkish ports after Derna?

Wilson.

JHB

38M

TELEGRAM RECEIVED. C I P H E R .

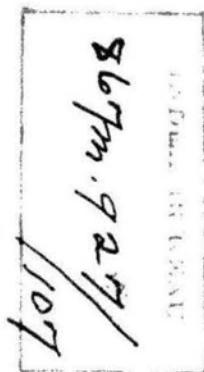
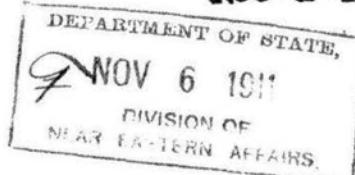
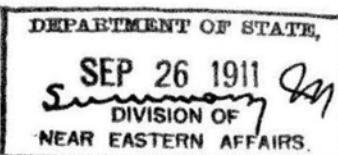
B.



From Pera,

Dated Sept. 25, 1911,

Rec'd 4:20 p. m.



Secretary of State,
Washington.

September 25, 4 p. m.

Your telegram of September 22, 5 p. m. I have informed the Grand Vizier yesterday of the visit of the CHESTER. My telegram of September 12, 6 p. m., having remained unanswered I thought that the decision to despatch CHESTER to Tripoli was not final. Your telegram of September 11, 12 noon did not state that CHESTER was to escort the expedition's yacht to Bengazi and Derna so I only considered the probable effect of presence of a man-of-war at Bengazi during, or at about the time of the trial of murderers. I thought it might be detrimental at a moment when governmental and public opinion are extremely excited about the situation in that Province where the Government realizes its weakness. Furthermore, the Director General of the Imperial Museums, under whose control excavations are placed, has declared that he would suspend them as local press articles

Deciphered by

articles

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

2nd from Para, Sept. 25, 4 p.m.

articles affirmed we were endeavoring to bring pressure on the local authorities.

If the Department is of opinion that the effect of visit of CHESTER to Tripoli will be lessened by its calling afterwards at other Ottoman Ports it seems to the Embassy that this evidence of watchfulness over American interests might be advantageous.

R O C K H I L L .

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

K

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

C I P H E R

3 AM.



From Pera,

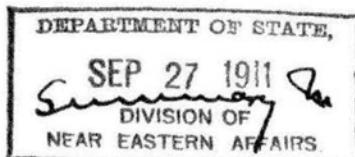
Dated September 26 1911.

Rec'd 3:40 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

September 26, 5 p.m.



Avoid by tel. Sept. 27
File. Dated 26.

801/126.927
8/1/98

Your telegram of September 25, 5 p.m. British Consul writes me judicial authorities Benghazi have told him they will notify him of the day fixed for the trial. This may imply that they are ready to recognize consular assistance as provided by article nineteen of the treaty of eighteen hundred and five.

MAR 11 1913
FILED

Shall I instruct Consul that we waive rights to consular assistance in the present case but to follow case carefully and report.

R O C K H I L L

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

TELEGRAM SENT.

3 PM



Department of State,

Washington, September 27, 1911 3pm

Peldy.

Amembassy,

Constantinople.

Instruct British Consul at Benghazi as suggested in your telegram of September 26, 5 p.m.

Wilson.

867 m. 927
29//

Enciphered by W.C.J.

Sent by operator 3rd fm. Sept 27, 1911, ZTP

Index Bu.—No. 56.

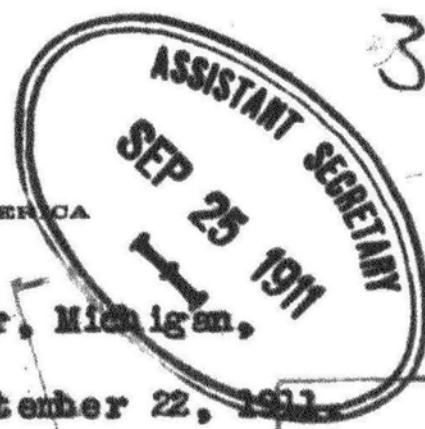


DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
SEP 25 1911
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

Ackd Sept. 27, 11
File #

Ann Arbor, Michigan,

September 22, 1911



Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication of September 20 enclosing a note from the Navy Department dated September 16 and copies of telegrams dated September 19 and 20.

On receipt of your telegram of September 20, I sent to Mr. Armour the following cablegram:

"State Department telegraphs matters expedited if Utowana arrive Malta before twelfth."

A copy of your message I forwarded to him yesterday by mail, and I am sending him a copy of your communication of September 20 with enclosures.

On behalf of the Council of the Archaeological Institute of America, as well as Mr. Armour and the members of the Expedition, I thank you for your promptness and care in consummating the arrangements for the

INDIAN EXPEDITION
SEP 28 1911
FILED

despatch of the Chester.

Very truly yours,

Francis W. Kelsey

The Honorable

Huntington Wilson.

INDEX BUREAU
SEP
1911
DEPT. OF STATE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

3

Archd. Sept. 27 '11.
To Navy Dept.
Sept. 27 1911.
File # Sirs

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
SEP 25 1911 *ff*
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

Ann Arbor, Michigan,

September 25, 1911.



I have the honor to report that Mr. Armour is endeavoring to direct the movements of the Utowana so as to conform to the suggestion of the Navy Department embodied in your telegram of September 20. I have just received from him the following cablegram (the punctuation is mine):

"Leaving to-day on yacht, Marseilles; thence Malta, after embarking members expedition. Hope arrive Malta before twelfth, unless delayed by Rockhill's calling Norton Constantinople."

As the cablegram was forwarded from the office of the Archaeological Institute in Washington, I am not sure from what point it was sent; I assume London or Southampton.

Very truly yours,

Francis W. Kelsey

The Honorable
Huntington Wilson.

INDEX BUREAU
SEP 25 1911
FILED

September 27, 1911.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Navy.

Sir:

Referring to the communication of September 16th (No. 4070-180:1) in which you inform me that the U. S. S. CHESTER has been directed to proceed to Malta and there to confer with the American Consul at that place and with the leader of the Cyrene archaeological expedition, and thence proceed to Benghazi and to Derna, I have the honor to inform you that these arrangements have been communicated to the members of the expedition through the intermediation of Mr. Francis W. Kelsey, of the Archaeological Institute of America. The Department has also communicated through Mr. Kelsey the suggestion, made orally, that matters would be expedited by the arrival of the expedition at Malta prior to October 12th.

R. L. Kels. rec'd 1911

There is enclosed herewith a copy of a letter from Mr. Kelsey, quoting a telegram from Mr. Allison Armour

in regard

in regard to the possibility of the expedition's earlier arrival at Malta.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosure:

From Francis W. Kelsey,
September 23, 1911.

867 m. 927/100

3 MM/PL

M

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

PK

September 27, 1911.

Mr. Francis W. Kelsey,

President, Archaeological Institute of America,

Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of September 22nd and September 23rd, with reference to the arrangements for Mr. Armour's yacht, the UTOWANA, conveying the Cyrene archaeological expedition, to join the U. S. S. CHESTER at Malta and accommodate its plans to the movements of that vessel.

Let me thank you for your assistance in making these arrangements.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

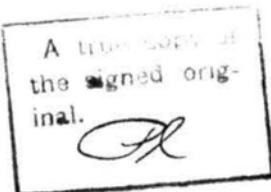
HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

867 m. 927/

3 MM/Pl

M



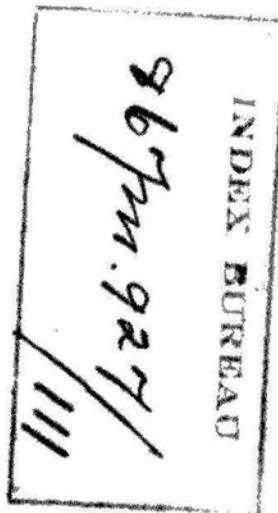
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION - ASIA MINOR.

NOTE.

See 765.67/43 for:

From Italian Emb. - Sep. 30, 1911,

Copy of telegram from the Foreign Office requesting that instructions be sent the Chester on subject of duties of neutrality.



867 m. 9/27

No.

October 2, 1911.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the communication which you handed me on the afternoon of September 30th, in confirmation of the oral communication made by you earlier in the day, the purport of which is translated as follows:

"ITALIAN EMBASSY TO THE UNITED STATES

"Telegram received from the Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs, September 28, 1911, by the Chargé d'Affaires of Italy:

"In anticipation of a conflict between Italy and Turkey, I beg you to secure from the Government of the United States that instructions may be sent to the commander of the War-vessel CHESTER on the subject of the duties of neutrality. For its part, the Royal Government has given to the Admiral commanding the Italian squadron the order to maintain cordial relations with the American vessel, and to lend it in case of need his assistance in the protection of the Archaeological Expedition.

'The Italian
Nobile Lazzaro dei Marchesi Negrotto Cambiaso,
Chargé d'Affaires of Italy.

11/22 m (28)

'The Italian Government, in occupying Tripolitania and Cyrenaica, will view with sympathy the work of the above-mentioned Expedition, and will lend it its aid and its support in the accomplishment of its task.

'Although a careful inquiry has shown to be wholly without foundation the calumnious rumors regarding the moral responsibility of certain Italian subjects for the assassination of one of the members of the said Expedition, the Royal Government is nevertheless resolved, in the improbable event that the contrary should be proved, to punish those guilty with the rigor of the laws.'"

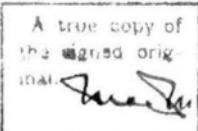
I have noted with satisfaction the assurances given by the direction of the Italian Government, in regard to the maintenance of friendly relations with the U. S. S. CHESTER and in regard to the sympathy with which that Government views the work of the American archaeological expedition to Cyrene.

As suggested by your communication, appropriate instructions in regard to neutrality will be conveyed to the Commander of the U. S. S. CHESTER.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my high consideration.

ALVEY A. ADEE

Acting Secretary of State.



3 MM/Pl

October 2, 1911.

Professor Mitchell Carroll,

The Octagon,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith for your information a copy of a note which has been addressed under today's date to the Italian Chargé d'Affaires, in reference to the attitude of the Italian Government towards the work of the Cyrene archaeological expedition.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ALVEY A. ADEE

Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosure:

To Italian Embassy,
October 2, 1911.

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.
AR

3 MM/Pl

M

October 2, 1911.

M.L. V.L. b. M.L. 98

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Navy.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of a note which this Department is addressing to the Italian Embassy in acknowledgement of a communication handed to me on the afternoon of September 30th by the Italian Chargé d'Affaires in confirmation of an oral communication which he had made to me earlier in the day, concerning the neutrality of the U. S. S. CHESTER, and the attitude of the Italian Government towards the American archaeological expedition to Cyrene. There are also enclosed copies of telegrams from the Embassies at Rome and at Constantinople in reply to a telegraphic inquiry as to any declarations concerning contraband, blockade, or other matters potentially affecting American inter-

ests, which

ests, which might have been made by the several belligerants.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

ALVEY A. ADEE

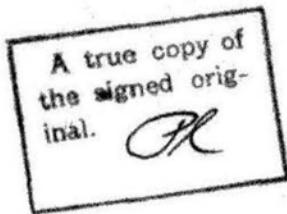
Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosures:

To Italian Embassy,
October 2, 1911;
Telegrams, from American Embassies,
Rome and Constantinople,
October 1, 1911.

3 MM/Pl

M



DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

L

September 11, 191

Mr Adee:

3

I hope that this letter to Senator Lodge, in regard to the DeCou case, will fulfil the purposes that you had in mind when you suggested it.

In connection with the giving of information concerning the recent developments of this case to those who are specially interested in it, it occurs to me that perhaps it would be well to furnish to the Captain of the CHESTER a memorandum of the circumstances which constitute the raison d'être of the visit to North Africa.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Dear Mr. Wilson
I send you a copy of the report of the Captain of the CHESTER which I have prepared for you. It contains all the facts known at present about the visit of the Captain to North Africa.

Confidential.

September 11, 1911.

The Honorable Henry Cabot Lodge,

United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence on the subject of the murder, last spring, of Mr. H. F. DeCou, a member of the American archaeological expedition engaged in excavating the ruins of Cyrene, I have now the honor to state, for your confidential information, that a despatch from the American Consul at Tripoli-in-Barbary reports that three Arabs have been committed for trial in the near future at Benghazi, on a charge of complicity in the murder. This despatch adds that a preliminary examination of witnesses by the judicial authorities at Derna failed to secure evidence implicating any Italians.

10/11/22 26.6.98

A further despatch from the same Consul reports that the Vali of Tripoli has been recalled and his

successor

successor appointed, and that he is informed that the Governor of Benghazi and the Kaimakam of the sub-Province of Derna will also be removed; also that the Italian Consul-General at Tripoli will not return from leave, that the Italian Consul at Benghazi (Bernabei) is to be recalled and perhaps reduced to the grade of Interpreter, and that the Italian Vice Consul at Derna will be transferred. The Consul comments that perhaps no special political significance is to be attached to any of these changes except in the case of the Turkish Governor and of the Italian Consul at Benghazi, which "would seem to have peculiar significance in view of the part they have at least indirectly taken regarding our interests at Cyrene."

I have also the honor to inform you that, in order to afford such countenance as may be appropriate upon the resumption of its operations by the archaeological expedition to Cyrene, this Department has arranged with the Navy Department that the Scout Cruiser CHESTER will visit Benghazi or Derna about October 10th next. Professor Carroll and Mr. Norton have been advised of the making of this arrangement, and requested to communicate to this Department the plans of the expedition for its return to Cyrene, with a view to a possible adapta-

tion of

tion of these plans to the situation as modified by the
despatch of the CHESTER.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HUNTINGTON WILSON

Acting Secretary of State.

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

PL

867 m. 937/

3 MM/PL

M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OCT 1 1911

DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

Arrd Oct. 3

File: Dyanby.

Ann Arbor, Michigan



September 30, 1911.

Dear Mr. MacMurray:

It appears that, after all, the Italian invasion was more than a "bluff". I cannot myself see how Italy should have made this bold advance without the secret approval of certain other Powers.

I am much concerned in regard to the possibility of the early extension to the Cyrenaica of the stringent regulations prohibiting excavation by foreigners which are in force in Italy. That the subject has already come up in Rome may perhaps be inferred from the paragraph published in The Daily News of Chicago earlier in the month, purporting to be a cablegram from Rome. A copy of this I enclose.

Would it be well at once to convey through the proper channels the suggestion that the United States

will expect that its rights of excavation will be confirmed and continued in the event of an Italian occupation of Cyrene, just the same as if the work had continued under Turkish authority? We have had informal assurance that the site of Cyrene would be at our service for as many years as desired, provided, of course, we conformed to the requirements of Turkish law, as we have strictly done; and we have occupied the field with the expectation that the excavations would require at least ten years and would be extended to Messa as well as Marsa Sousa. Under another cover I send a Bulletin of the Institute with a statement in regard to the ruins at Messa, the right to excavate which we claim by reason of discovery and identification.

If in your judgment it would be wise to do so, I shall be glad to prepare a formal letter to the Department of State upon this subject.

Yours very truly,

Mr. John Van Antwerp MacMurray.

James W. Elsey

Extract from "Chicago Daily News"

September, 1911.

ITALY WILL LET AMERICANS DIG.

**Mission Financed by Allison Armour of
Chicago Not to Be Disturbed.**

Special Cable to The Daily News.

Rome, Italy, Sept. 12.- In the event of the occupation by Italy of the province of Tripoli in Northern Africa, the excavations at the ancient city of Cyrene, undertaken by the American archaeological mission and financed by Allison Armour of Chicago, will be continued. Italy will respect the concession made by Turkey and the work of excavating will be resumed early in the fall.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

October 4, 1911

Mr Adee:

Although Mr Kelsey writes to me personally and unofficially concerning the Archaeological Institute's rights in Cyrenaica, and I have given my proposed reply the same character, it seems to me that I ought not to send my letter to him without your approval. May I therefore submit to you the attached exchange of letters?

Franklin D. Roosevelt

OCT -4 1911

Dear Mr Murray

I think your letter to Mr. Kelsey is safe.

I fancy you make a good point about not anticipating established Italian jurisdiction in Cyrenaica. The object of the Italian note was probably to elicit some recognition, tacit or explicit, of Italy's territorial authority in Cyrene. We can only treat it now as a military occupation until the status is fixed by peace. A.

Division of
Near Eastern Affairs.

October 3, 1911.

Mr. Francis W. Kelsey,

President, Archaeological Institute of America,
Ann Arbor, Michigan.

My dear Mr. Kelsey:

Let me thank you for your letter of September 30th, and for the bulletin of the Institute, which has just come.

I do not wonder that you feel concerned as to the fate of the concession for the exploration of Cyrene, now that a radical change in the administration of that region seems imminent. But perhaps Professor Carroll has already communicated to you a copy of a note which we addressed to the Italian Embassy yesterday, acknowledging certain assurances on this subject voluntarily offered by the Italian Government.

Whatever may be the immediate possibilities of the expedition's resuming its work at Cyrene, the Italian assurances seem to guarantee satisfactorily the preservation of the Institute's rights there in the event of Italy's occupying that region.

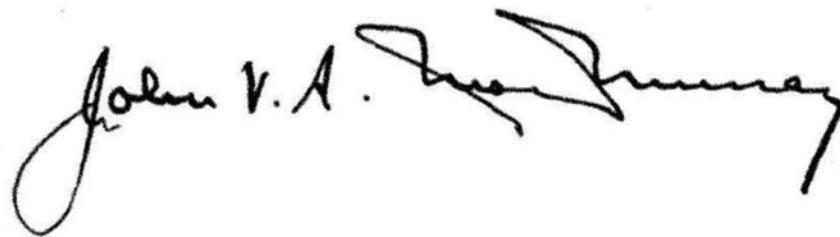
In the

2/26. und/28

In the meanwhile, my own judgment is that we could not very well do more than acknowledge these assurances, without anticipating, in a manner which would ignore Turkey's existing rights, the transfer to Italy of the political control of that region. For that reason, I am inclined to think that it is not now necessary for you to prepare a formal letter to the Department in reference to this matter; but if you think it desirable, I shall be glad to file in the Department this exchange of personal letters.

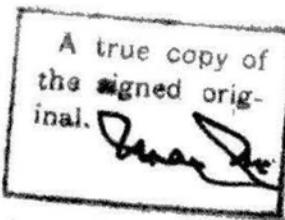
Believe me,

Yours very sincerely,



Enclosure:

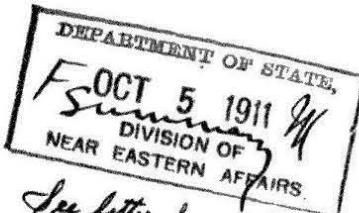
To Italian Embassy,
October 2, 1911.



3 MM/P1

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

THE OCTAGON WASHINGTON, D. C.



October 5, 1911.

INDEX BUREAU

867m. 924

OCT 20 1911

To the Honorable
The Secretary of State.

See letter from Mitchell Carroll
Oct. 7, 1911.
File H.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge your esteemed note of October 2, enclosing for our information a copy of a note addressed under that date to the Italian Charge d'Affaires in reference to the attitude of the Italian Government toward the work of the Cyrene archaeological expedition. I am sure the officials in charge of the expedition to whom I am confidentially transmitting your communication will note with satisfaction the sympathy with which the Italian Government views the work at Cyrene, and the promise of its aid and support in the accomplishment of their task.

The changed aspect of affairs also suggests the wisdom of, at least temporarily, postponing the trip to Cyrene from Malta under the escort of the Chester that was planned for the 12th instant, and I may add that the Commissioners have taken up this matter and will doubtless send a communication to that effect within a few days. The delay is due to the difficulty of reaching Mr. Armour and Mr. Norton who are now on the way to Malta.

I am, Sir,

Respectfully yours,

Mitchell Carroll

General Secretary.

TELEGRAM SENT.

3 MM



Department of State,

Washington, October 6, 1911-11 am

Roksi.

Amembassy,

Constantinople.

The Italian Government has volunteered the assurance that on occupying Tripoli it will assist and support the work of the Cyrene expedition. In view of present situation, however, Archaeological Institute suggests temporarily postponing return of expedition to Cyrene. Cruiser CHESTER will remain at Malta awaiting further orders.

Adm

303//L.S.b.m.lg

Enciphered by W.G.J.

sent by operator 1230 P.Oct 6, 1911

Index Bu. - No. 50.

K

C I P H E R

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.



From Rome,

Dated October 7, 1911.

Rec'd 7:50 p.m.

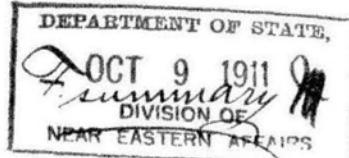
Secretary of State,

Washington.

October 7, 6 p.m.

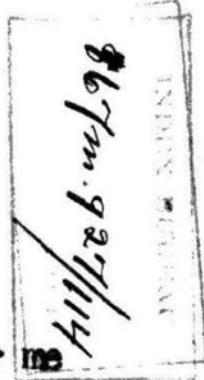
Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs sent for me

this morning having received news from London that Richard Norton, Director American Excavations, Cyrene, intended to proceed to Tripoli. Secretary urged Norton's intentions be discouraged as he considers present moment most inopportune. Says that Italian Government has never objected to American archeological expedition and if Norton persists in visiting Tripoli now will do everything possible to protect him but hopes that he will remain away for the present in order to avoid possible unpleasant incidents which Italian Government would greatly regret. Secretary adds Norton's intention to go to Tripoli now especially ill advised in view of his reported anti-Italian utterances both public and private which statement appears to receive support from letter signed by Norton, director American expedition, in London Times third instant, attacking present Italian action in Tripoli. Italian charge d'Afairs



To Mitchell Carroll,
Oct. 10, 1911.

Ans'd, Oct. 8, 1911.
Federico De Sa



OCT 11 1911
FILED

Deciphered by

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

Rome, October 7, 6 p.m.
From

Sheet 2.

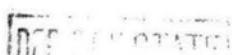
d Affairs, Washington, has been instructed to take matter up with the Department. I consider Norton's visit to Tripoli at present time ill-advised, especially as on account of war work could not probably be carried on and his presence might only rouse suspicions which might prejudice work ^{of} expedition later.

W I L S O N.

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

TELEGRAM SENT. 3 PM



OCT
8
1911
INDEX BUREAU
DEPARTMENT OF STATE



Ambassador,

Rome.

Washington, October 8, 1911.

1pm
Romby

Your telegram/ October 7, 6 p.m./ Archaeological Institute informed/ Department/ yesterday/ that/ Norton/ plans/ to go/ October/ twenty-ninth/ to/ Constantinople, and that/ plans/ for/ expedition/ to/ Cyrene/ are suspended./ The/ Chester/ will stay/ at/ Malta/ pending further instructions/ from this/ Government./ Italian Charge d'Affaires/ here/ has been/ given/ this/ information.

Adde

826.2.114

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

Index Bu.—No. 58.

145P M., 1911, Oct 8-1911-616

267 m.927
October 7, 1911

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Navy.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence on the subject of the despatch of the U. S. S. CHESTER to North African ports in connection with the expedition engaged in the exploration of the ruins of Cyrene under the auspices of the Archaeological Institute of America, I have the honor to enclose for your information copies of an exchange of memoranda between this Department and the Italian Embassy under to-day's date, and of a letter from the General Secretary of the Institute in regard to the postponement of the return of the expedition to Cyrene.

h 11/12 b. inc C 28

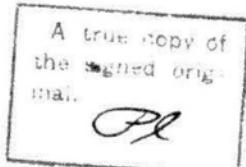
I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ALVEY A. ADEE

Acting Secretary of State

3 MM F



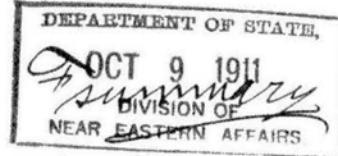


ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY



3-6m
THE OCTAGON WASHINGTON, D. C.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State.



October 7, 1911.

CHIEF CLERK

OCT -7 1911

DEPT. OF STATE

Tel to Clep, Rome & Anpoli.
File
CWA

My dear Sir:

Referring to our previous correspondence in regard to the Cyrene expedition to North Africa, I beg to transmit to you the following message just received by telegram from the President of the Institute:

"4:32 p.m., October 6, 1911.

Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Professor Mitchell Carroll, The Octagon, Washington, D. C.

Norton letter dated September twenty-third says that upon advice he would start for Constantinople twenty-ninth. Light of developments Dr. Angell and I think it unwise for expedition to approach Africa now. Please ask State Department delay Chester and notify us as soon as it is expedient to proceed.

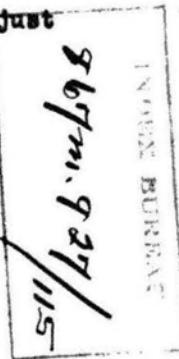
Francis W. Kelsey."

Believe me to be,

Respectfully yours,

Mitchell Carroll
General Secretary.

INDEX BUREAU
OCT 21 1911
FILED



DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

OCT 7 1911

DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

October 7, 1911.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State.

My dear Sir:

Referring to our previous correspondence in regard to the Cyrene expedition to North Africa, I beg to transmit to you the following message just received by telegram from the President of the Institute:

"4:32 p.m., October 6, 1911.

Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Professor Mitchell Carroll, The Octagon, Washington, D. C.

Norton letter dated September twenty-third says that upon advice he would start for Constantinople twenty-ninth. Light of developments Dr. Angell and I think it unwise for expedition to approach Africa now. Please ask State Department delay Chester and notify us as soon as it is expedient to proceed.

Francis W. Kelsey."

Believe me to be,

Respectfully yours,

General Secretary.

Translation

Royal Embassy of Italy

(8)

The Royal Government hears that the cruiser CHESTER will probably sail today for Cymenica. It should be thankful to the Federal Government if it would immediately telegraph to the Commanding officer of that ship instructions conformable to the friendship existing between the two countries and to the obligations of neutrality, and acquaint him with the Royal Government's favorable dispositions toward the American Archaeological Mission.

Washington, October 7, 1911.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

Memorandum --

Handed to Mr Adeé, Acting Secretary of State, on October 7, 1911, by the Italian Chargé d'Affaires.

Mr Adeé informed the Chargé that instructions had already been telegraphed to the CHESTER to await further orders at Malta.

REGIA AMBASCIATA D'ITALIA



DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
OCT 7 1911
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

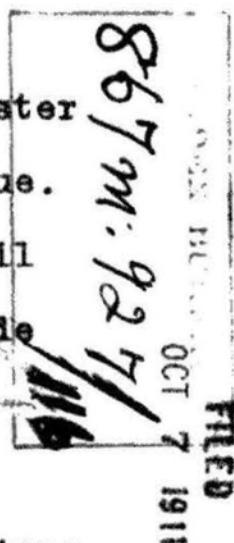
Ansd Oct. 7.

File.

Spence Jr.

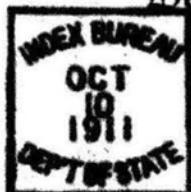
Le Gouvernement Royal a appris que le croiseur Chester partira probablement aujourd'hui pour la Cyrénaique. Il serait reconnaissant au Gouvernement Fédéral s'il voulait télégraphier immédiatement au Commandant de ce navire des instructions conformes à l'amitié existant entre les deux pays et aux devoirs de la neutralité, en lui faisant connaître les dispositions favorables du Gouvernement Royal vers la Mission Archéologique Américaine.

Washington, ce 7 Octobre, 1911.



TELEGRAM SENT. 3 F

Department of State,



Washington, October 9, 1911. 5 PM

Roggy

Ambassy,

Constantinople.

Italian Embassy represents that Norton is starting for Cyrene with the avowed purpose of creating difficulties between the United States and Italy, and the Italian Government disavows all responsibility for Norton henceforth. The Charge d'Affaires has been informed of Norton's plan to visit Constantinople and that Institute has ~~abandoned~~ postponed expedition. Is Norton now at Constantinople and what are his plans. He should avoid antagonizing Italian Government.

9/11/27 6:42 AM 628

Adm

Enciphered by D

Sent by operator Oct 9, 1911.

Index Bu. - No. 50.

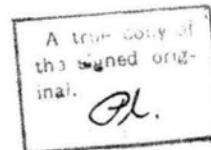
769 m. 9²7
765.67

The Department of State acknowledges the memorandum of to-day's date in which the Italian Embassy, in view of the supposed intention of the U. S. S. CHESTER to sail for Cyrenaica to-day, expressed in behalf of the Italian Government a desire that appropriate instructions be telegraphed to the Commander of that vessel in conformity with the friendship existing between the two countries and with the duties of neutrality, at the same time making known to him the favorable attitude of the Italian Government towards the American Archaeological Expedition.

This Department has to state, in reply, that the original orders to the Commander of the CHESTER, to proceed to Cyrenaica in company with the members of the Archaeological Expedition, have been suspended, and that the CHESTER is now awaiting at Malta such further orders as may be determined upon by this Government.

Washington, October 7, 1911

3 MM &



D

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

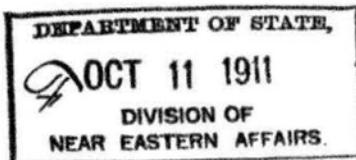
3 S Lo.
CIPHER



From Pera,

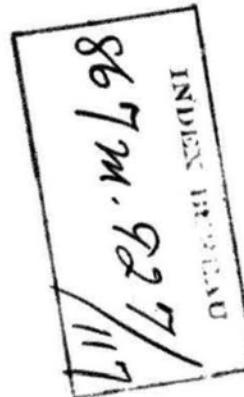
Dated October 10 1911,

Rec'd 5:25 P. M.



Ans'd, Oct. 11, 1911.

*Dele
CWF*



Secretary of State,
Washington.

October 10, 5 p. m.

Your telegram of October 9, 5 p. m. Norton
not here. He was expected on second instant but I have
no advice that he is coming.

FILED
OCT 13 1911

ROCKHILL

927
TELEGRAM SENT. 3 P



Department of State,

Washington, October 11, 1911.

4 pm

Rabby

Ambassy,
Constantinople.

Your telegram (October 10, 5 p.m.) Department informed /
that Norton with (Armeur) proceeding today (from Marseilles) to /
Malta. Commander of cruiser CHESTER instructed to confer /
with Armour at Malta, after which cruiser will proceed to /
Trieste to supply new crew to SCORPION, then return to /
Malta. Archaeological Institute desires postponement of /
plans for return of expedition to Cyrene.

Adde

Enciphered by D

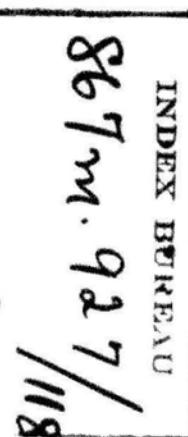
Sent by operator Boy Postal 3 M. Oct 11, 1911.

Index Bu. - No. 56.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION. ASIA MINOR.

NOTE:

See: 765.67/68 for request from Italy of October 10th, 1911,
to be kept informed as to the movements of the CHESTER.



File
Dowd Jr.

Translation

Professor Norton, head of the American Archaeological Expedition to Cyrenaica sent to the London Times a letter that has been published in one of its last issues. Mr. Norton presumed to question the grievances of Italy against Turkey, including the murder of Father Giustino which he would make it appear was on account of women. He seeks, at the same time, to arouse the suspicions of the English public as to the dangers which occupation by a power party to the Triple Alliance would mean to Great Britain.

Handed to Mr. Addis, Acting Secretary of State
by the Italian Chargé d'Affaires, Oct. 5th

99-50



Copy (other
translation) to
Prof. Carroll, Oct. 10.
File. ~~Index~~

869m-927
119

Le Professeur Norton, Directeur de l'expédition archéologique
Américaine en Cyrenaque, a adressé une lettre au "Times" de Londres
qui l'a publiée dans un de ces derniers numéros. Mr. Norton s'est permis
contester les griefs de l'Italie contre la Turquie, y compris celui concernant
l'assassinat du père Giustino, qu'il voudrait faire croire avoir eu
lieu pour des raisons de femmes. Il cherche, en même temps, d'exciter les
suspects du public Anglais sur les dangers qu'une occupation d'une puissance
appartenante à la Triple Alliance représenterait pour la Grande Bretagne.

INDEX
ORIGIN
FILED
1911

867 m. 927

October 10, 1911.

Professor Mitchell Carroll,

General Secretary,

Archaeological Institute of America,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the archaeological expedition to Cyrene, there are enclosed, for the information of the Institute, a copy of a memorandum left with the Acting Secretary of State by the Italian Chargé d'Affaires on October 5th, and a paraphrase of a telegram dated October 7th from the American Chargé d'Affaires at Rome.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ALVEY A. ADEE

Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosures:

Memorandum of Italian Chargé d'Affaires,

October 5, 1911;

Paraphrase of telegram from Embassy, Rome,
October 7, 1911.

A true copy of
the signed original.

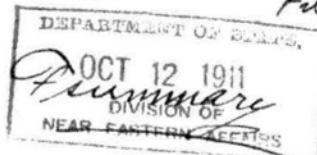
PL

3 MM/Pl F

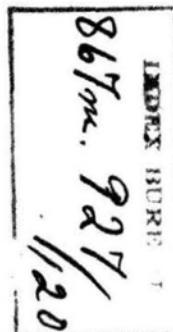
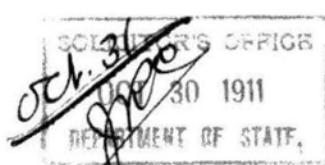
M

AMERICAN EMBASSY,
CONSTANTINOPLE.

No. 18.



September 23, 1911.



NOV 10 1911
FILED

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

S i r :

In reference to my cablegram of September 12, 6 p.m., I beg to state that on August 31st, I received from our Consul at Tripoli-in-Barbary a copy of his despatch to the Department, No. 55, of August 22nd. From this I learned that "three Arabs who had been arrested for complicity in said crime (the murder of Mr. De Cou at Cyrene) had been transferred to Benghazi, where the trial would immediately be held".

On the 4th instant, I telegraphed to the British Consul at Benghazi, who is in charge of American 1/ interests at that place, to ascertain the correction of 2/ the above report. On the 7th instant, I received his reply

stating

stating that the trial of the three accomplices would take place after Ramazan (which finishes this week). On the 3/ receipt of the above I telegraphed again to Benghazi directing the Consul to follow closely the trial and to report fully to the Embassy on the proceedings. I also asked that the names of the alleged accomplices be given me as well as those of the actual murderers, and to inform me whether legal proceedings had been started against the latter for their trial by default. The names of the men under arrest and the other information I had asked for were duly transmitted to me 4/ by the Consul on the 14th instant.

On the same day I sent my first telegram to the British Consul at Benghazi, the 4th instant, I called on the Grand Vezier and asked him if further and more energetic steps could not be promptly taken by the authorities in Tripoli for the arrest and bringing to trial of the actual murderers whose present place of abode was well known. I told him that information had reached me that three of the accomplices in the crime had been arrested and transferred to Benghazi for immediate trial. I asked that their trial should be suspended pending the arrest of the murderers.

Hakki Pasha, who did not appear to be well informed on the present status of the case, replied that the arrest of the principal culprits might still require considerable time, and that under Turkish law the accomplices now under arrest could not be held indefinitely pending the arrest of the murderers, they must be tried at an early date and at the same time the principal culprits, if still at large, could be tried by default and would unquestionably receive the heaviest

sentence

sentence fixed by law. He said he would telegraph to Benghazi and ask why the principal culprits had not been arrested and how the case stood. I insisted on the importance for both Governments of a prompt trial of all persons implicated in the crime, in the interests of justice and as necessary to insure the future safety of the Archaeological Expedition to Cyrene, whose labors the Ottoman Government had stated it did not wish to see interrupted. The Grand Vezier concurred in my views and assured me that he would do all he possibly could to attain the desired end.

On the 10th instant, I again called the Grand Vezier's attention to this matter, and asked him if he had had any reply to the inquiry he had told me he would make. He replied in the negative. Again on the 19th, Mr. Schmavonian saw the Grand Vezier, who said he had not yet heard from Benghazi. He seemed particularly desirous that I should clearly understand that the Ottoman Criminal Code required the immediate trial of the accomplices in the crime and of the chief culprits by default. Mr. Schmavonian answered him that I was aware of this provision of the Code.

In view of the fact, reported to me by the Consul at Benghazi, that the trial will certainly take place within the next two or three weeks, it does not appear to me that the presence at Benghazi, at the time of the trial or very shortly after, of the cruiser "Chester" can serve any good purpose. It might, on the contrary, be a cause of some irritation both locally and even in Constantinople, where the news of the proposed despatch of the "Chester" to Tripoli, which appeared in the local press on the 12th instant,- the same day on which I received your cablegram of the 11th in-

forming

forming me of the decision to send it to Benghazi or Derna,- has, as I reported to you in my telegram of the 19th, caused some surprise in official circles which are of opinion that the Government is using due diligence to bring the criminals to trial, and which could ^{but} see in the visit of the "Chester" at this time an attempt at intimidation and could with difficulty be brought to believe that it was to strengthen the hands of the Government.

On the other hand, I am of opinion - an opinion shared by both Mr. Gargiulo and Mr. Schmavonian, to whose intimate knowledge of this country and people I naturally attach great value,- that a visit some time this autumn, if possible, of a squadron of our navy to various Ottoman ports during a cruise in the Mediterranean in which it would likewise call at ports of other Powers, would in all likelihood exercise a generally beneficial effect on our relations with this country where the American flag has been but infrequently seen of late years. During such a cruise the "Chester", or any other ship of the squadron, could call at Derna for the special purpose of inquiring into the safety of the American Archaeological Expedition at Cyrene, which would by then have begun its work again, and it cannot be doubted that its presence there would produce an excellent effect on the neighboring tribesmen as well as the local authorities who would be incited thereby to take all necessary precautions for the safety of the American party.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Enclosures:

- 1/ Telegram, Mr. Rockhill
to Mr. Jones, Sept. 4, 1911;
2/ Telegram, Mr. Jones to Mr. Rockhill,
September 6, 1911;

Enclosures: Continued,

3/ Telegram, Mr. Rockhill to Mr. Jones,
September 11, 1911;

4/ Telegram, Mr. Jones to Mr. Rockhill,
September 14, 1911.

R/A.

Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 18.

COPY.

September 4, 1911.

British Consulate
Benghazi

Embassy informed trial of three Arabs for complicity
in De Cou murder will take place immediately Is this
correct

Rockhill
American Ambassador

Enclosure No. 2 to Despatch No. 18.

.....

COPY.

Sent

September 6, 1911.

AMERICAN AMBASSADOR

CONSTANTINOPLE

Trial will not begin till after Ramazan

Jones

Enclosure No. 3 to Despatch No. 18.

COPY.

September 11, 1911.

British Consul
Benghazi

Your telegram sixth Embassy expects you to follow trial closely and to report fully You are requested to telegraph names of alleged accomplices under arrest and those of principal culprits who have not yet been arrested also whether legal proceedings started for the trial of the latter by default

Rockhill
American Ambassador

Enclosure No. 4 to Despatch No. 18.

COPY

September 23, 1911.

American Ambassador

Constantinople

Names of three under arrest as accomplices are bulgasim hamid elwarta second abdulgelil bin hadji salim third shutib bin suweil the two assassins are ibrahim bin suweil and denaas bin abdulgelil trial by default will be held simultaneously with that of accomplices

Jones

No. 19.

AMERICAN EMBASSY,
CONSTANTINOPLE.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

September 26, 1911.



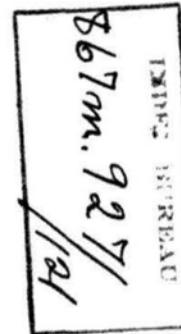
203

371

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
OFFICE OF OCT 12 1911
30 DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

Actd Nov 10, 1911.

File Pl



NOV 10 1911
FILED

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

In continuation of my despatch Number 18, of the
1/2/ 23d instant, I have the honor to enclose herewith copies of
two despatches received on the 24th instant, from the British
Consul at Benghazi, who is in charge of American interests,
confirming and explaining his telegrams to me, copies of which
I enclosed in my previous despatch above referred to.

In view of the Department having notified the Ottoman
Government through its Ambassador at Washington of its willing-
ness to waive its right of Consular assistance at the trial of
those accused of the murder of Mr. De Cou, and of the informa-
tion conveyed to me by the Consul in his despatch of the 9th
instant, that the Judicial Authorities of Benghazi had informed
him

him "that due notice (of the trial) would be given to this Consulate of the date fixed for the hearing of the case", which may imply that said Judicial Authorities are ready to recognize without discussion the right claimed by us under Article XIX of the Treaty with Tripoli of 1805 to Consular assistance, and considering furthermore the early date at which the trial is to be held, I have through abundance of caution deemed it advisable to cable you to ask whether I shall inform the Consul that the Government waived its right to Consular assistance in the present case, so that, at the proper moment, he may so inform the local Judicial Authorities.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Enclosures:

- 1/ Mr. Jones to Mr. Rockhill, September 9, 1911;
- 2/ Mr. Jones to Mr. Rockhill, September 14, 1911.

Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 19.

COPY.

H.B.M.s Consulate,

Benghazi, 9 September 1911.

Sir,

I have the honour to confirm my telegram of the 6th Instant in the following terms:-

"Trial will not begin till after Ramazan" sent in reply to Your Excellency's telegram received the previous night with regard to the statement that the trial of the three men arrested on suspicion of complicity in the murder of the late Mr. De Cou was about to take place here.

On the date mentioned a question was addressed to the Judicial Authorities by this Consulate as to the correctness of the statement referred to in Your Excellency's telegram and their reply was to the effect that the trial in question would not begin until the close of the present month of Ramazan; it was added that due notice would be given to this Consulate of the date fixed for the hearing of the case.

I have the honour to add that according to information received yesterday from a private source it is probable that the case will be brought before the Court for hearing without delay after the close of the Bairam festivities.

I have the honour to be, Sir, etc.

(Signed) I. Francis Jones.

To the
Rt. Honble.
A. Romkhill, Esq.
American Ambassador,
Constantinople.

COPY.

H.B.M.s Consulate,

Benghazi 14 September 1911.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's telegram of the 11th Instant and to confirm my telegram of this date as follows:-

"Names of three under arrest as accomplices are Bulqasim Hamid Elwarta second Abduljelil bin Hadji Salim third Shueib bin Suweil The two assassins are Ibrahim bin Suweil and Denaas bin Abduljelil Trial by default will be held simultaneously with that of accomplices"

I am informed that the trial by default of the two murderers will proceed at the same time as that of the men now under arrest as accomplices. Legal advice is to the effect that counsel for the defence will plead only on behalf of the accused who appear in court and will not have the right to speak for the men not yet arrested.

I am given to understand that if a decree of acquittal be pronounced in favour of the men now under arrest the case will not be submitted to the Court of Cassation unless the Public Prosecutor demands that the case be so referred and it was added that the papers relative to the matter will remain

with

To the Rt.Honble.

A. Rockhill, Esq.

American Ambassador,

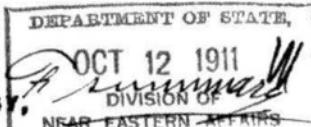
Constantinople.

with the local court here until the arrest of the men now at large has been effected.

I have the honour to be,
with great respect, Sir, etc.,
(Signed) I. Francis Jones.

No. 21.

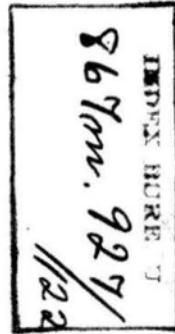
AMERICAN EMBASSY,
CONSTANTINOPLE.



September 28, 1911.

Acted Oct. 13, 1911.

File #.



OCT 13 1911
FILED

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

S i r :

In confirmation of my cablegram of the 25th
1/ instant, 4 P.M., I have the honor to transmit herewith
copy of the Note which I sent the Grand Vezier on the
24th, informing him of the visit of the U.S.S. "Chester"
in company with Mr. Armour's yacht, the ports of Benghazi
and Derna in the month of October and of the purpose of
said visit.

I have had no reply from the Grand Vezier to
my note, and have been unable to see him at the Porte,
where he has not been this week, all his time and that of
the Cabinet being taken up by consideration of the crisis

created

created in Tripolitan affairs by Italy's unexpected preparation for a demonstration on the coast of that province, if not for an occupation of a portion of it.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

M.W. Rockhill

/

Enclosure:

Mr. Rockhill to Hakki Pasha, September 24, 1911,

with translation.

R/A.

Enclosure to Despatch No. 21.

COPY.

Le 24 septembre 1911.

Votre Altesse,

D'ordre de mon Gouvernement, j'ai l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de Votre Altesse que désireux de donner un témoignage public du vif intérêt qu'il prend aux travaux et dans le personnel de l'Expédition Archéologique américaine à Cyrène, dans le sandjak de Benghazi, qui doit recommencer ses travaux au mois d'octobre prochain, et pour faire une visite à Son Excellence le Gouverneur, il a décidé que le croiseur de la marine américaine "Chester" accompagnera l'Expédition à son retour. Il se rendra en conséquence vers le 5 octobre prochain à Malte, et vers le treize du même mois il ira en compagnie du yacht de Monsieur Armour, sur lequel se trouveront les membres de l'Expédition Archéologique, au port de Benghazi. De là il accompagnera le yacht de Mr. Armour à Derna pour y faire une brève visite de quelques jours. Le "Chester" arrivera au port de Derna avant le vingt octobre.

En portant ce qui précède à la connaissance de Votre Altesse, je saisirai cette occasion pour renouveler à Votre Altesse l'assurance de ma très haute considération.

(Signed) W. W. Rockhill.

Translation.

September 24, 1911.

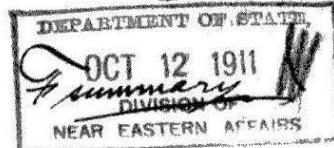
Your Highness:

Under directions from my Government, I have the honor to inform Your Highness that desirous of giving a public proof of the deep interest which it takes in the labors and in the personnel of the American Archaeological Expedition at Cyrene, in the Sandjak of Benghazi, which is about to resume its work next month, and for the purpose of making a visit to His Excellency the Governor, it has been decided that the "Chester", a cruiser of the American navy, shall accompany the Expedition on its return. It will consequently proceed to Malta about the 5th of October, and on about the 13th of the same month it will proceed in company of the yacht of Mr. Armour, on which shall be the members of the Archaeological Expedition, to the port of Benghazi. From there it will accompany Mr. Armour's yacht to Derna for a brief visit of some days. The "Chester" will arrive in the port of Derna before October 20th.

In bringing the above to Your Highness's attention, I avail myself of this occasion to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

(Signed) W. W. Rockhill.

No.



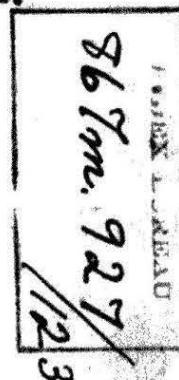
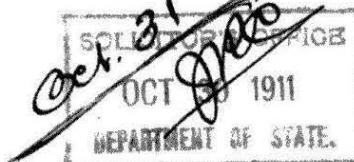
Actd Nov. 10, 1911.
Toll & File PL



AMERICAN CONSULATE,

Malta, September 21, 1911.

SUBJECT: De Cou Murder.



File Nov 10

W



THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to report that Victor Camilleri, chief interpreter and assistant to the American Archeological Expedition in Cyrene, North Africa, has returned from a trip to Cyrene and reports that the native tribesmen who worked for the Expedition in Cyrene are more than ever friendly to the Americans and want them to return and begin work. They are puzzled that, apparently to them, nothing has been done actually in North Africa toward capturing the murderers of Mr. De Ceu. They are more than ever opposed to the Italians.

Camilleri also reports several changes and prospective changes among rulers and consuls in North Africa. The Italian Vice Consul at Derna, Ugo Sabetta, who was consul when I was there in the second week of last May, will leave Derna this month. He has been removed to Ragusa. Sabetta got into trouble with the Turkish authorities owing to the departure of two Italians, one of whom was Sabetta's interpreter, on an expedition into the interior without waiting for a military escort. Whether this was the cause for his removal was not known in Derna when Camilleri was there.

Bernabie, Italian consul in Benghasi, will be removed. He is a most objectionable man from the American standpoint. He will be sent back to the interpreter class in which he was when promoted to be consul in Benghasi. Bernabie has himself given the information of his removal. He leaves soon and may be gone now as there was a rumour when Camilleri was in Benghasi that he was to go within a few weeks. Camilleri tells me that no reason has been made public in Benghasi for Bernabie's removal. If he was removed as a result of his conduct in the De Ceu murder case, I believe the fact should be made known as it would have a great effect on the native community.

The French Vice Consul in Benghasi, Le Lorrain has been sent to a post in South America and is on his way. No reason is given for his leaving. When he went through Malta on his way to France several months ago, I went out to his ship to talk to him and he said he was going to ask to be removed from Benghasi as it was a "hole". He was very friendly to the Armeur party on our recent visit.

In a talk with Camilleri recently, Le Lorrain remarked that Jones, the British consul in Benghasi, now in charge of the interests of the United States is rather too cautious and while not accusing him of timidity, intimated that he was a little afraid of acting with decision. Le Lorrain seemed to have no reason to belittle Jones, according to Camilleri. Jones and Le Lorrain were apparently good friends when I was in Benghasi. Jones may be a long time in Benghasi and probably will always remain in Turkey as he is a specialist in that work and speaks Arabic and Turkish. He does not want to act any harsher than is absolutely necessary because it might impair his usefulness to his own country.

I believe that Le Lorrain is right and that Jones is better at gathering information and in preparation than in action. I am giving this estimate of Jones so that the Department may know something of the personality of the man representing it.

The Italian Consul General at Tripoli, a Signor Pestaleza, has left Tripoli probably not to return. It was given out in Tripoli that he would return but Camilleri tells me he has sold all his furniture and belongings in Tripoli.

Pestaleza left Tripoli about two months ago as near as I can find out. Consul Wood in Tripoli probably has reported on this phase of the matter.

Ibrahim Pasha, Governor General of Tripoli, has been ordered removed and Camilleri tells me he probably has already left. Camilleri says that Mr. Wood, our consul in Tripoli, remarked to him that : "The Italians have gotten rid of the Governor General." No reason had been made public when Camilleri was in Tripoli, but undoubtedly Consul Wood has reported on the facts. Ibrahim Pasha is going to the Yemen in some capacity in the war. The man who is to succeed

him,

him, was once consul in Malta and had a good reputation here. His name is Azarian Bey. He is a Christian. He was in Malta about 2½ years and left about 1½ years ago. He is described as a man with a very strong will and has had a military training.

The Kaimakam of Derna, Mukbil Bey, is to be removed according to common talk in Derna, but no reason had been made public when Camilleri was there. It is not known where he is going. It is rumored that his successor is to be Nagib Nadir. If this is true, Camilleri says it will be an advantage to us as it is commonly said in Benghasi that Nagib Nadir is a much stronger man than Mukbil Bey, the present Kaimakam, and he is reported to be rather in favor of the Americans in Cyreniaque. The Mudir of Cyrene, who is friendly to the American Expedition, is a great friend of Nagib Nadir and the latter takes the Mudir's advice very often on public matters.

The Muteserrif of Benghasi is to be removed but the time of his removal had not been publicly announced when Camilleri was in Benghasi nor the reason for his removal nor the place to which he is to be sent.

It is commonly said in Benghasi, according to Camilleri, that he had failed to establish sufficient influence. This idea has been growing recently. I formed the opinion when I saw the Muteserrif in Benghasi and heard the talk there that he was not a strong governor. If the United States could bring it about that a strong, fearless man backed by the Turkish government could succeed the present Muteserrif it would be of immense value in the case.

The expedition mentioned on page 1 of this report as getting the Italian Vice Consul Ugo Sabetta into trouble went to Cyrene. Ceradini, the Italian who wanted to go into the interior, is probably a newspaper man although he said he was a professor of archeology in the Archeological School of Florence. I am not satisfied at this distance of what his subject was, but am quite sure he is not an archeologist. Camilleri shrewdly tested him and having some small knowledge of the local archeology, disclosed Ceradini's ignorance. Ceradini accepted as a fact the statement that certain pronounced Greek vases were Roman and took the stone tent foundations which the expedition had built to be an ancient ruin. Other ridiculous mistakes and lack of common knowledge of the history of the locality seem to indicate that he is not a professional archeologist as he professed to be.

Ceradini's companion was Petrucci, interpreter for the Italian Vice Consul in Derna, Sabetta. After being promised a guard at the request of Sabetta, and waiting several days owing to delays put in his way by the Kaimakam, they rode away alone.

I have secured from Camilleri a hand drawn map of the country (which is sent herewith as enclosure) showing where they went. Their trip lasted seven days. Guards were

sent

sent after them and caught them at Cyrene. Their orders were to bring them back to Derna and not to go outside the district but Ceradini bribed them and they went through to Benghasi. Ceradini wanted to avoid trouble in Derna owing to his unauthorized leaving so he did not return. The names of the two guards are Mustapha el Jahah and Abd-el-Uahed el Delel. The names of these men may be of importance inasmuch as Ceradini and Petucci left the direct road and went into the country of the De Ceu murderers which took them off the straight road to Benghasi as the map indicates. It will be noticed that the route of Ceradini bends sharply to the north at Merg. The murderers were southeast of Tekra. I do not know whether they saw the murderers, but I have arranged with Camilleri to see their camel man when he (Camilleri) returns to Cyrene and find out.

Ceradini was in Cyrene one day. It had been arranged that a steamer should meet him at Marsa Seusa, the landing place for Cyrene, and take him back to Derna, but owing to the trouble he had had in Derna, he did not go down to Marsa Sousa. The boat (the Italian liner Hercules) whistled and waited an hour and a half and went on. This was not a regular stop at Marsa Sousa. On the Hercules at the time was Signor Breschiani, chief agent of the Banco di Roma for all Tripoli. His office is in Tripoli. He had gone to Derna with Ceradini and had arranged to stop the boat to pick him up. It will be remembered that the Banco di Roma is a political agent of the Italian Government in Tripoli. (Vide my report to the Department of State dated June 1, 1911, entitled: "De Ceu Murder").

The hand of the Banco di Roma appears at almost every turn in this matter. The agent of the Banco di Roma got an introduction to me as soon as he found out I had been to North Africa and has been most attentive but beyond returning the courtesy his politeness demands he is getting nothing else.

An agent of the Banco di Roma, Mahmud Derbi, a lawyer, went from Benghasi, his home, to Cyrene and asked many questions about my visit to the coast. He inquired whether I had taken any notes and upon what subjects I had asked questions and whether I had made any remarks that might lead to a knowledge of what I thought about the case. Derbi also went to the Mudir and questioned him but as I did all the work through Mr. Armour, Prof. Norton, the British Consul in Benghasi, and Camilleri, and used as much discretion as possible, Camilleri tells me he got no information.

Camilleri tells me that up to about a month ago the murderers were still in the employ of the Italian cattle company which is controlled by the Banco di Roma. (Vide my despatch of June 1 above referred to).

Ceradini wrote several articles for the Italian press upon his return to Italy. In one he described the richness of the country through which he passed.

Just why the Italian Vice Consul in Derna should have sent his interpreter with Ceradini I do not know

knew. The interpreter asked questions around Cyrene and both appeared interested in any plans of the American Archeological Expedition which they could hear of and also in local political matters.

There seemed to be a growing feeling in North Africa, Camilleri says, that the United States is losing prestige there by its waiting policy. That is also the opinion in Malta.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

James Oliver Lain,
Consul.

Malta, September 21, 1911.

Subject: De Cou Murder.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that Victor Camilleri, chief interpreter and assistant to the American Archeological Expedition in Cyrene, North Africa, has returned from a trip to Cyrene and reports that the native tribesmen who worked for the Expedition in Cyrene are more than ever friendly to the Americans and want them to return and begin work. They are puzzled that, apparently to them, nothing has been done actually in North Africa toward capturing the murderers of Mr. De Cou. They are more than ever opposed to the Italians.

Camilleri also reports several changes and prospective changes among rulers and consuls in North Africa. The Italian Vice Consul at Derna, Ugo Sabetta, who was consul when I was there in the second week of last May, will leave Derna this month. He has been removed to Ragusa. Sabetta got into trouble with the Turkish authorities owing to the departure of two Italians, one of whom was Sabetta's interpreter, on an expedition into the interior without waiting for a military escort. Whether this was the cause for his removal was not known in Derna when Camilleri was there.

Bernabie, Italian consul in Benghazi, will be removed. He is a most objectionable man from the American standpoint. He will be sent back to the interpreter class in which he was when promoted to be consul in Benghazi. Bernabie has himself given the information of his removal. He leaves soon and may be gone now as there was a rumour when Camilleri was in Benghazi that he was to go within a few weeks. Camilleri tells me that no reason has been made public in Benghazi for Bernabie's removal. If he was removed as a result of his conduct in the De Cou murder case, I believe the fact should be made known as it would have a great effect on the native community.

The French Vice Consul in Benghazi, Le Lorrain has been sent to a post in South America and is on his way. No reason is given for his leaving. When he went through Malta on his way to France several months ago, I went out to his ship to talk to him and he said he was going to ask to be removed from Benghazi as it was a "hole". He was very friendly to the Amour party on our recent visit.

In a talk with Camilleri recently, Le Lorrain remarked that Jones, the British consul in Benghazi, now in charge of the interests of the United States is rather too cautious and while not accusing him of timidity, intimated that he was a little afraid of acting with decision. Le Lorrain seemed to have no reason to belittle Jones, according to Camilleri. Jones and Le Lorrain were apparently good friends when I was in Benghazi. Jones may be a long time in Benghazi and probably will always remain in Turkey as he is a specialist in that work and speaks Arabic and Turkish. He does not want to act any harsher than is absolutely necessary because it might impair his usefulness to his own country.

I believe that Le Lorrain is right and that Jones is better at gathering information and in preparation than in action. I am giving this estimate of Jones so that the Department may know something of the personality of the man representing it.

The Italian Consul General at Tripoli, a Signor Pestalosa, has left Tripoli probably not to return. It was given out in Tripoli that he would return but Camilleri tells me he has sold all his furniture and belongings in Tripoli.

Pestalosa left Tripoli about two months ago as near as I can find out. Consul Wood in Tripoli probably has reported on this phase of the matter.

Ibrahim Pasha, Governor General of Tripoli, has been ordered removed and Camilleri tells me he probably has already left. Camilleri says that Mr. Wood, our consul in Tripoli, remarked to him that : "the Italians have gotten rid of the Governor General." No reason had been made public when Camilleri was in Tripoli, but undoubtedly consul Wood has reported on the facts. Ibrahim Pasha is going to the Yemen in some capacity in the war. The man who is to succeed

him,

him, was once consul in Malta and had a good reputation here. His name is Asmar Bey. He is a Christian. He was in Malta about 2½ years and left about 1½ years ago. He is described as a man with a very strong will and has had a military training.

The Kaimukan of Derna, Nukbil Bey, is to be removed according to common talk in Derna, but no reason had been made public when Casillieri was there. It is not known where he is going. It is rumored that his successor is to be Nagib Hadir. If this is true, Casillieri says it will be an advantage to us as it is commonly said in Benghasi that Nagib Hadir is a much stronger man than Nukbil Bey, the present Kaimukan, and he is reported to be rather in favor of the Americans in Cyrenaica. The Mudir of Cyrene, who is friendly to the American Expedition, is a great friend of Nagib Hadir and the latter takes the Mudir's advice very often on public matters.

The Wuteserrif of Benghasi is to be removed but the time of his removal had not been publicly announced when Casillieri was in Benghasi nor the reason for his removal nor the place to which he is to be sent.

It is commonly said in Benghasi, according to Casillieri, that he had failed to establish sufficient influence. This idea has been growing recently. I formed the opinion when I saw the Wuteserrif in Benghasi and heard the talk there that he was not a strong Governor. If the United States could bring it about that a strong, fearless man backed by the Turkish government could succeed the present Wuteserrif it would be of immense value in the case.

The expedition mentioned on page 1 of this report as getting the Italian Vice Consul Ugo Gabetta into trouble went to Cyrene. Corradini, the Italian who wanted to go into the interior, is probably a newspaper man although he said he was a professor of archeology in the Archeological School of Florence. I am not satisfied at this distance of what his subject was, but am quite sure he is not an archeologist. Casillieri already tested him and having some small knowledge of the local archeology disclosed Corradini's ignorance. Corradini accepted as a fact the statement that certain pronounced Greek vases were Roman and took the stone tent foundations which the expedition had built to be an ancient ruin. Other ridiculous mistakes and lack of common knowledge of the history or the locality seem to indicate that he is not a professional archeologist as he professed to be.

Corradini's companion was Petrucci, interpreter for the Italian Vice Consul in Derna, Gabetta. After being promised a guard at the request of Gabetta, and waiting several days owing to delays put in his way by the Kaimukan, they rode away alone.

I have secured from Casillieri a hand drawn map of the country (which is sent herewith as enclosure) showing where they went. Their trip lasted seven days. Guards were sent

sent after them and caught them at Cyrene. Their orders were to bring them back to Derna and not to go outside the district but Coradini bribed them and they went through to Benghasi. Coradini wanted to avoid trouble in Derna owing to his unauthorized leaving so he did not return. The names of the two guards are Mustapha el Jahah and Abd-el-Uahed el Delel. The names of these men may be of importance inasmuch as Coradini and Petucci left the direct road and went into the country of the De Cou murderers which took them off the straight road to Benghasi as the map indicates. It will be noticed that the route of Coradini bends sharply to the north at Berg. The murderers were southeast of Tokra. I do not know whether they saw the murderers, but I have arranged with Camilleri to see their camel man when he (Camilleri) returns to Cyrene and find out.

Coradini was in Cyrene one day. It had been arranged that a steamer should meet him at Marsa Sousse, the landing place for Cyrene and take him back to Derna, but owing to the trouble he had had in Derna, he did not go down to Marsa Sousse. The boat (the Italian liner Hercules) whistled and waited an hour and a half and went on. This was not a regular stop at Marsa Sousse. On the Hercules at the time was Signor Breschiani, chief agent of the Banco di Roma for all Tripoli. His office is in Tripoli. He had gone to Derna with Coradini and had arranged to stop the boat to pick him up. It will be remembered that the Banco di Roma is a political agent of the Italian Government in Tripoli. (Vide my report to the Department of State dated June 1, 1911, entitled: "De Cou Murder").

The hand of the Banco di Roma appears at almost every turn in this matter. The agent of the Banco di Roma got an introduction to me as soon as he found out I had been to North Africa and has been most attentive but beyond returning the courtesy his politeness demands he is getting nothing else.

An agent of the Banco di Roma, Mahmud Derbi, a lawyer, went from Benghasi, his home, to Cyrene and asked many questions about my visit to the coast. He inquired whether I had taken any notes and upon what subjects I had asked questions and whether I had made any remarks that might lead to a knowledge of what I thought about the case. Derbi also went to the Mudir and questioned him but as I did all the work through Mr. Armeur, Prof. Norton, the British Consul in Benghasi, and Camilleri, and used as much discretion as possible, Camilleri tells me he got no information.

Camilleri tells me that up to about a month ago the murderers were still in the employ of the Italian cattle company which is controlled by the Banco di Roma. (Vide my despatch of June 1 above referred to).

Coradini wrote several articles for the Italian press upon his return to Italy. In one he described the richness of the country through which he passed.

Just why the Italian Vice Consul in Derna should have sent his interpreter with Coradini I do not know

know. The interpreter asked questions around Cyrene and both appeared interested in any plans of the American Archeological Expedition which they could hear of and also in local political matters.

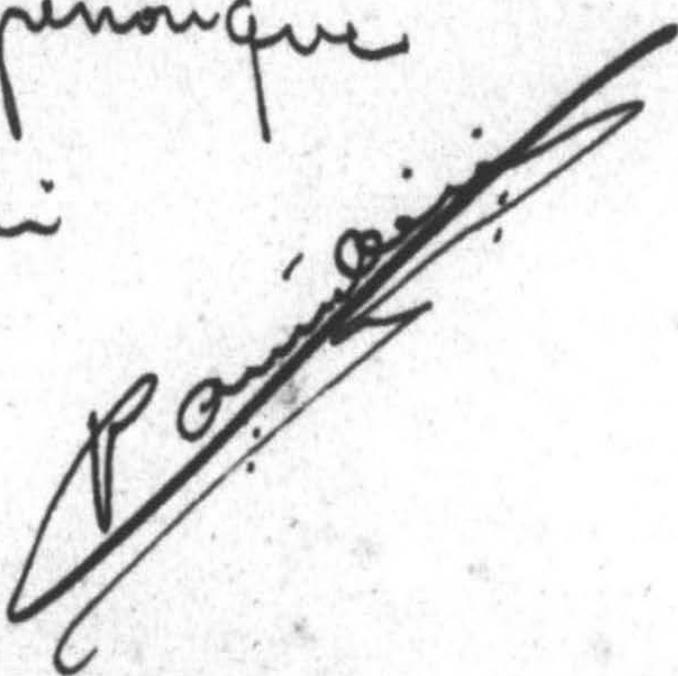
There seemed to be a growing feeling in North Africa, Camilleri says, that the United States is losing prestige there by its waiting policy. That is also the opinion in Malta.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

Consul.

867m. 927/
123

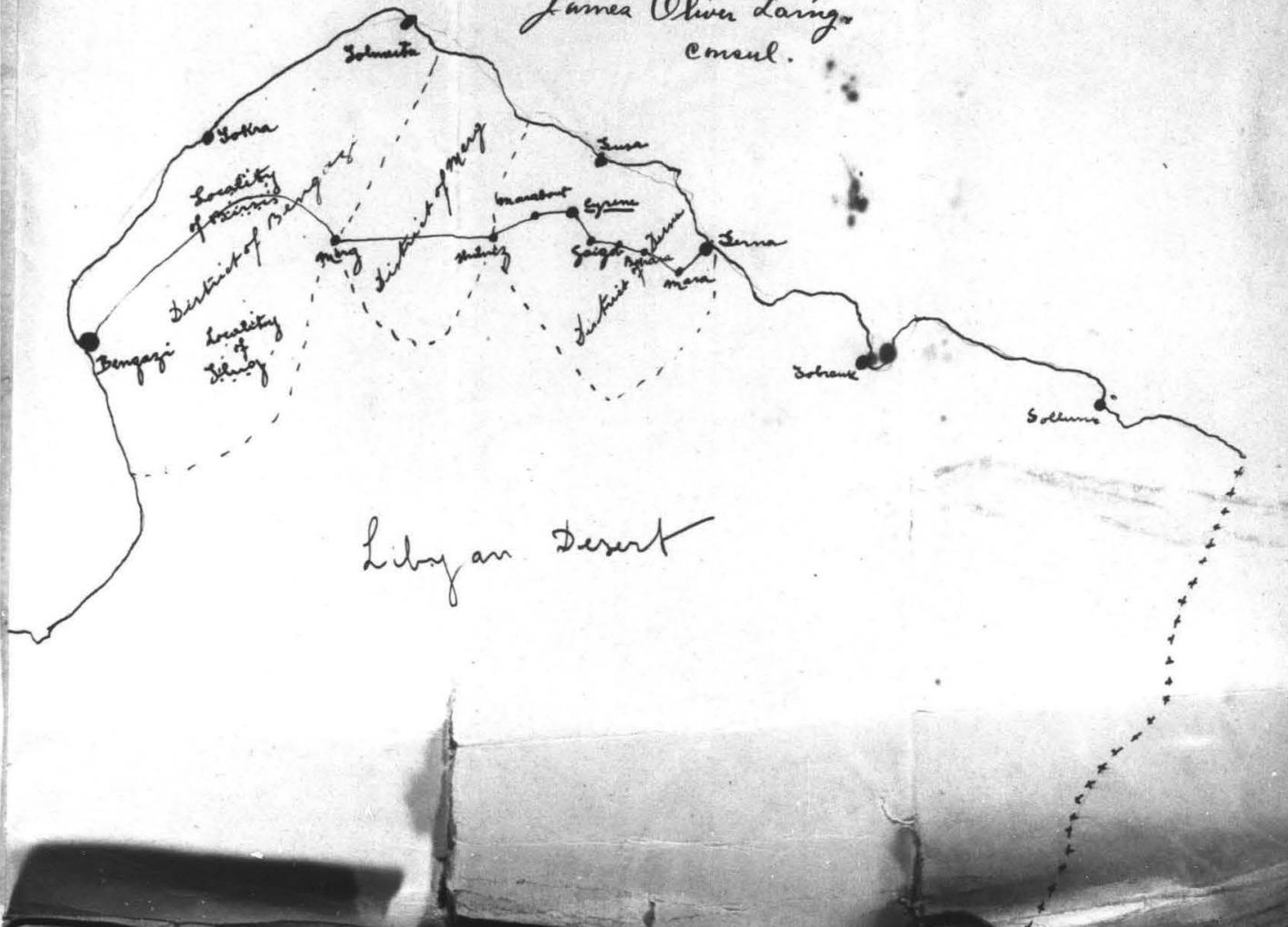
Free Lands Provinces
Province of Upper Nigritic
Niger



Route followed by Conradini & Petrucci
in their trip from Derna to Sungaili
Distance approximately 160 miles

Enclosure with Despatch of September 21, 1911,
Subject: "Decon Murder": Valletta, Malta.

James Oliver Loring
Consul.



Archaeological expedition - Asia Minor.

NOTE:

See 765.67/64 for:

To Tripoli-in-Barbary, TEL: 4 pm. October 9, 1911:

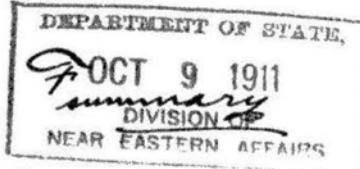
"Return of American expedition to Cyrene postponed. Norton proceeding to Constantinople end October. Cruiser CHESTER awaiting instructions at Malta."

421/426 rev 1, 93

Handed to Mr. Adler by
the Italian Chargé, Oct. 9, 1911.
CNT

392

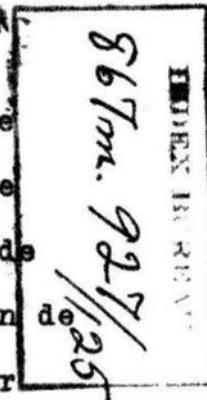
REGIA AMBASCIATA D'ITALIA.



Copied to Mr. Carroll } Oct. 9,
cable to Emb. Cyle } 1911.

File

CNT



MEMORANDUM .

Il a été reporté d'une personne digne de foi, que Monsieur Norton, Directeur de la Mission Archéologique Américaine, d'accord avec le Conseiller de l'Ambassade Ottomane à Londres, serait parti, ou aurait l'intention de partir, sous peu, pour la Cyrénaique dans le but de créer un grave incident avec les autorités Italiennes et troubler ainsi les relations entre le Gouvernement Royal et celui des Etats Unis. Les incidents devraient être exagérés afin d'exciter l'opinion publique américaine contre l'Italie. Un ami de M. Norton aurait essayé de le déconseiller, mais il paraît qu'il soit décidé à courir cette aventure .

Le Gouvernement Royal désire que le Gouvernement Fédérale soit au courant de ce qui précède afin qu'il puisse éviter tout incident fâcheux qui pourrait naître de la conduite de M. Norton et dont le Gouvernement Royal décline, dès à présent, toute responsabilité.

Il serait utile que le Gouvernement Fédéral mit au courant le Commandant du navire Chester des intentions attribuées à M. Norton pour en empêcher l'éventuelle exécution.

Washington, ce 9 Octobre 1911

Translation (MM)

ROYAL EMBASSY OF ITALY

MEMORANDUM

It has been reported by a person worthy of belief that Mr Richard Norton, Director of the American Archaeological Expedition, by arrangement with the Counsellor of the Ottoman Embassy at London, has left, or intends shortly to leave, for Cyrenaica with the purpose of creating a serious incident with the Italian authorities, and thus disturb the relations between the Royal Government and that of the United States. Incidents would be exaggerated in order to excite American public opinion against Italy. A friend of Mr Norton's has attempted to dissuade him, but it seems that he has decided to undertake this adventure.

The Royal Government desires that the Federal Government should be aware of the foregoing, in order that it may be able to avoid any unfortunate incident that might arise from the conduct of Mr Norton, and for which the Royal Government henceforth declines all responsibility.

It would be useful if the Federal Government were to make known to the Commander of the vessel CHESTER the intentions attributed to Mr Norton, to prevent their execution if need be.

Washington, October 9, 1911.

867 m. 927

October 9, 1911.

Professor Mitchell Carroll,
Secretary, Archaeological Institute of America,
The Octagon,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I enclose herewith for your information a memorandum just handed me by the Italian Chargé d'Affaires in regard to the reported plans of Mr. Richard Norton, Director of the American archaeological expedition at Cyrene, to return now to North Africa.

I explained to the Chargé that, according to the information the Department had received, Mr. Norton was to start for Constantinople on September 29th, and that the expedition to Cyrene has been postponed by the Archaeological Institute for prudential reasons.

I would request that you bring this memorandum to the attention of the proper officials of the Institute, and that you keep the Department informed of all

available

867 m. 927
S/ 1625

available facts bearing upon the movements and plans
of the representatives of the Institute.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ALVEY A. ADEE

Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosure:

From Italian Embassy,
October 9, 1911.

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.



3 P/P1/F

ARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

Oct. 10, 1911.

Draft of telegram (signed by Mr. Adeo) handed by me today to Commander Fullenwider, Navy Department, with the request that the Navy transmit its sense to the Commander of the CHESTER, at Malta, at this Department's expense.

C. H. F.

File

Copy of the telegraph
CW

QUOTE on ~~The Italian Government represents through its Embassy~~
QUOTE is informed of REPORTS sent of籌劃 to
here that Richard Norton, by arrangement with Counsellor of
Ottoman Embassy at London, has left or intends shortly to
leave for Cyrenaica with purpose of creating a serious inci-
dent with Italian authorities and thus disturb relations
between Italy and the United States by exaggerating incidents
and exciting American public opinion against Italy. A friend
reported to have endeavored vainly to dissuade Norton. The
Italian Government informs this Government of these facts
QUOTE in order that it may be able to avoid any unfortunate
incident that might arise from the conduct of Mr. Norton
and for which the Royal Government henceforth declines all
responsibility END QUOTE and requests that the execution of
Norton's intentions be prevented by this Government.

2/25/1911

The State Department understands that Allison Armour
~~will leave for Malta with you~~ leaves Marseilles tomorrow for
Malta, and requests that you bring foregoing to his atten-
tion and secure statement regarding Norton's movements and
plans. In view of opinion of archaeological institute that
present return to Cyrene is inexpedient and its request
that arrangements for CHESTER to accompany expedition be
postponed, the State Department presumes that Armeur or
Norton have no intention of proceeding to North Africa.

+ finds no occ to int any
+ HQ's visit to remaind over
any adde

Archaeological expedition. Asia Minor.

NOTE:

See 765.67/68 for:

To Italy, TEL: October 11, 1911, 4 p.m.

Commander of CHESTER, after conference
with Armour who leaves Marseilles to-day,
will proceed from Malta to Trieste to supply
new crew to SCORPION, returning to Malta pre-
sumably about 21st instant.

867.927/126

File

Second Assistant Secretary's Room.

MEMORANDUM.

NOV - 6 1911

Dear Mr. Towle:

It seems to me
the the DeCen question
might best remain in
abeyance, pending some
definite solution of the
Italo-Turkish question.

A simple act of
negotiation, reserving
all ultimate rights, might
be in order.

aaq

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

Oct. 14, 1911.

Dear Mr. Adeé:

Herewith typed translation of the Italian Embassy's reply to our note of July 5, 1911 and its accompanying memorandum on the subject of the murder of Mr. DeCou and the suggestions of Italian complicity in the difficulties encountered by the American expedition.

I am likewise sending a copy to Mr. Clark, and we shall study the matter some before troubling you further about it.

C.W.F.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

Oct. 14, 1911.

Dear Mr. Clark:

Here is the Italian "come-back" about the DeCou murder and Italian complicity in the expedition's troubles.

I shall come over early next week to talk this over with you. I have sent a copy to Mr. Adeé also.

C.W.F.

Read D-25m
Fowler.

No. 1855



REGIA AMBASCIATA D'ITALIA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 12 1911
F. MURRAY
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

CHIEF CLERK

OCT - 3 1911

DEPT. OF STATE

To Embassies, Rome & Consuls.
Nov. 9, 1911.
Ans. Nov. 7, 1911.

Washington, 6 Ottobre 1911. Fil RL

867m. 927/27

INDEX BUREAU

NOV 10 1911
FILED

Signor Segretario di Stato,

Con riferimento alla precedente corrispondenza scambiata con codesto Dipartimento di Stato, ho l'onore di trasmettere, qui accluso, a Vostra Eccellenza un particolareggiato memorandum compilato in seguito a coscienziose indagini eseguite per cura del Regio Ministero degli Affari Esteri, allo scopo di rispondere agli addebiti mossi contro le Autorita' Consolari Italiane o contro Regi sudditi in Tripolitania in occasione dell'efferrato assassinio di uno dei membri della Spedizione Archeologica Americana : addebiti riportati nel pro-memoria che Vostra Eccellenza mi aveva fatto l'onore di dirigermi con Nota del 5 Luglio u.s.

No. 139 .

Vostra Eccellenza troverà in detto documento la confutazione delle diverse accuse e la spiegazione di circostanze di fatto che l'autore del pro-memoria aveva interpretato in senso ostile agli Italiani.

Mi preme tuttavia di non lasciare senza speciale risposta l'ultima parte del promemoria stesso, ove si accenna alle interpellanze od interrogazioni avvenute nel Parlamento Italiano a riguardo

A Sua Eccellenza

l'On. P.C. Knox

Segretario di Stato

Washington, D.C.

della Missione diretta dal Professor Norton.

Invero, non riesco a comprendere la ragione per la quale sia stata fatta menzione dalle discussioni parlamentari , quasi che potesse esservi una relazione qualsiasi fra queste e le circostanze di fatto esposte nel suddetto documento a prova del malanimo degli Italiani o della loro complicita' morale nell'assassinio del signor Decou.

Se qualche preoccupazione poteva manifestarsi nell'animo di persone che seguivano con interesse lo sviluppo delle energie economiche italiane in Tripolitania e che potevano ignorare i veri scopi della Missione Archeologica Americana, non e' men vero che il R. Ministro degli Affari Esteri ha avuto cura di rischiarare l'opinione pubblica a tale riguardo , ben sapendo che la Missione Archeologica non aveva fini incompatibili con gli interessi Italiani in Tripolitania e Cirenaica . Nella seduta infatti del 2 dicembre 1910 della Camera dei Deputati, Sua Eccellenza il Marchese di San Giuliano ebbe espressamente a dichiarare che " nelle gare della scienza noi intendiamo procedere d'accordo colla Missione Americana " . Ed in tale senso sono state le istruzioni impartite ai RR. Ufficiali Consolari in Tripolitania e Cirenaica e le ripetute assicurazioni di cui ho avuto l'onore di rendermi interprete in diverse occasioni.

Nutro ferma fiducia che l'Eccellenza Vostra , messa ora perfettamente al corrente del reale stato di cose e delle intenzioni

del Regio Governo verso la Missione scientifica americana, vorrà attribuire il giusto valore ai fatti ed alle deduzioni esposte nel pro-memoria dal Dipartimento di Stato trasmessomi, delle quali gli ultimi avvenimenti sembrano di per se sufficienti ad indicare l'origine sospetta.

Gradisca, signor Segretario di Stato, l'espressione della mia piu' alta considerazione.

Neotto Lambay

- M E M O R A N D U M -

L'osservazione del pro-memoria del 27 giugno 1911 relativa alle prime difficoltà incontrate a Costantinopoli per la concessione degli scavi di Cirene ad una spedizione archeologica americana, è spiegabilissima in quanto e' noto che analoghe pratiche erano state iniziata in precedenza dal Governo Italiano per ottenere che i medesimi scavi fossero affidati alla Scuola Archeologica di Roma. Per diverse ragioni, specialmente di carattere finanziario, le domande italiane non furono allora mantenute con la dovuta insistenza mentre lo furono quelle americane che riuscirono a trionfare. E troppo naturale quindi che gli interessati americani abbiano saputo da quale direzione venissero le domande contemporanee di scavi a Cirene durante il corso delle trattative condotte a Costantinopoli. L'interpretare queste difficoltà come un'opposizione tendenziosa e del tutto fuori luogo, in quanto che qui non si trattava che di una concorrenza scientifica per esplorazioni archeologiche in una medesima regione,

Del resto si poteva a priori prevedere che, fra una domanda italiana ed una americana di concessioni in Cirenaica, il Governo Ottomano, dati i suoi sospetti verso la politica dell'Italia, avrebbe data la preferenza alla seconda, senza il bisogno di intrighi o di pressioni.

Le accuse mosse agli Italiani di spargere false insinuazioni

sul conto degli americani e diffondere dicerie fra gli arabi per renderli malvisi, mancano di ogni serio fondamento giacche' nessuna delle persone che compongono le missioni italiane in Tripolitania ne' i membri della Colonia italiana colà usano di simili armi, le quali, del resto, e' molto dubbio avrebbero potuto sortire alcun effetto in quelle popolazioni.

E' bensì vero che il professor Hahnerr, al suo arrivo a Bengasi, aveva presentato all'Intessarif una nuova domanda per chiedere la conferma degli scavi di Cirene a nome della missione italiana, invocando il diritto di priorità cui questa sembrava aver diritto in seguito alle pratiche di sei o sette anni fa, ed e' pur vero che s'è stata tentata la compra di qualche terreno a Cirene, con concorso del Banco di Roma; ma non sembra che ciò costituisca di per sé una prova di sentimenti ostili verso la missione scientifica americana, trattandosi piuttosto, com'e' detto più sopra, di una concorrenza a scopi scientifici.

Del resto anche questa parvenza di opposizione e' cessata completamente allorché si e' saputo, in modo ufficiale, che il firmano per gli scavi era stato inviato al capo della Missione Americana e che ogni domanda della spedizione italiana era rimasta lettera morta. Nessuna azione e' stata fatta dagli italiani della Cirenaica contro l'andamento dei lavori della Missione Americana, per la quale anzi quella Italiana e' venuta ad accordi per la divisione di sfere di esplorazioni: accordi dalla medesima sempre rispettati mentre si lamentava che non lo fossero egualmente da parte della spedizione diretta dal prof. Norton.

Se gli Americani trovavano all'inizio dei lavori il sospetto

e l'ostilita' da parte degli Arabi, e' certo che questo stato di cose non venne provocato dagli Italiani. Chiunque ha percorso e conosce l'interno del paese sa perfettamente con quale diffidenza sono spiati dagli Arabi i suoi passi e come sia arduo il poter indurre la popolazione beduina ad entrare in ordine di idee completamente incomprensibili alla loro mentalita'. Un'accoglienza egualmente ostile fu trovata anche dalla Missione Italiana in piu' di una localita' della Cirenaica.

L'accusa fatta al Console Generale Italiano di avere insistito per la compra di terreni a Cirene, si riferisce ad un atto anteriore al permesso di scavi ottenuto dal signor Norton. Un funzionario incaricato dal Banco di Roma di studiare sul posto la possibilita' della voltura di un campo offerto da una donna Araba al Banco stesso, si incontrò col predetto signor Norton in uno dei suoi primi viaggi di esplorazione preliminare. Il Banco aveva già anticipato una quota per l'acquisto di tale terreno ed e' naturale che, in simile congiuntura, si sia fatto il nome del Cavaliere Barnabei perche' le transazioni del Banco in materia immobiliare avvenivano, in quel tempo, sotto il controllo del Regio Console.

Contrariamente a quanto e' affermato nel detto pro-memoria, non appena il Regio Console seppe che il signor Norton aveva ottenuto il permesso ufficiale per gli scavi di Cirene, non solo non presto' piu' l'opera sua per assicurare l'esito della voltura, ma indusse persino il Banco di Roma a troncare le trattative, rinunciando alla quota anticipata.

L'affermazione che il R. Console e la Missione Archeologica Italiana siano riusciti ad ottenere una localita' a Toora e ad iniziарvi

tosto gli scavi e' assolutamente non conforme a verita', ne' poteva ignorarlo l'autore del pro-memoria, il quale sembra pur ben a giorno delle cose della Cirenaica. Da tale affermazione potrebbe nascere il sospetto che la missione Italiana, lavorando a Teocra - localita' vicina al paese donde messero i due assassini del signor Decou - fosse, sia pure moralmente, compromessa nell'efferato omicidio.

I colpi di fucile sparati contro le baracche del signor Norton a Cirene, di cui si parla nel pro-memoria, sono tutt'altro che un effetto degli intrighi italiani. Da un'inchiesta eseguita dalle autorita' locali e dalla dichiarazione fatta al R. Console da una persona che occupa una posizione ufficiale colla', sembra risultare che la prima fucilata fu tirata da un servo del signor Norton, scibillato da un ufficiale di guardia; le altre, secondo le voci corse in paese - veci che il Mutessarif ha confermato personalmente al Regio Console - sarebbero i colpi di revolver che il personale della Missione sparava in aria nei divertimenti notturni, destando di fuori l'allarme degli Arabi.

La mattina dell'11 marzo 1911 avvenne l'omicidio del signor Decou. I due assassini sono stati realmente identificati e sono Ibrahim Suel e Ma-naas Abdul Gelil, appartenenti alla sotto-tribu' Ailet Scelmi, frazione della tribu' di Assa che occupa Cirene. Essi provenivano da Tocra. L'uno fu veduto a Guba dove il Mucir di Girshe, d'ordine del Governatore di Tripoli, si reca' per catturarlo con una forza armata, ma o per partito preso o per paura non vi riusci'. Un altro fu veduto a Gedabia, al lato opposto di Tocra, in casa di un suo antico tutore, a nome Mohammed El-Sadek, il quale

il quale ultimo fu, in seguito, invitato a camparire a Bengasi, ma non si
presto a favorire la cattura del suo protetto. Gli assassini, fino a tutt'oggi,
continuano ad errare nei luoghi meno accessibili della Cirenaica, senza
essersi piu' accostati al paese, dove avevano precedentemente domicilio.

E altrettanto falso che i due assassini siano stati, quando

che sia, impiegati come pastori di bestiame appartenente ad Italiani od alla
dipendenza del Banco di Roma. Il bestiame del Banco di Roma, tanto quello di

Tocra (pianura di Berses) quanto quello di Sollugh e di Gedabia, e' affidato

ai cali degli Amaghir, i quali, chiamati ripetutamente dal Mutessarif, gli

hanno espressamente dichiarato che i due assassini Ibrahim Bu-Suel e En-Naas

Abdul-Gelil non sono ne' alla loro dipendenza ne' hanno alcun rapporto con

essi.

L'affermazione del compenso di venti sterline date dagli Ita-

liani agli assassini del signor Decou non e' che una favola che il Regio

Console ha potuto dimostrare tale al Regio Governo nei suoi rapporti dell'8

Aprile scorso.

La vera causale del fatto, secondo la convinzione di persone

con indubbi dati di assassinio, e da altre circostanze

pratiche dell'ambiente, va ricercata in un atto di vendetta per conculcati

diritti di proprieta', giavhe', da informazioni attendibilissime, risulta-

re che i due arabi si siano recati a Cirene per reclamare la loro parte

di quanto erano stati venduti dai loro parenti alle, cosiddette,

ed esiste una lettera diretta da Hog Mohamed Gibrini, membro del Consiglio

Amministrativo di Derna, al notabile Hog Hussein El-Mehdwi di Bengasi, colla

quale si dava questa versione del movente dell'assassinio il giorno dopo che

questo era avvenuto.

Se questa versione non risulta dagli atti del processo, se

il signor Norton - come ha assicurato il Capitano Deeds al capo della Missione Archeologica Italiana - sostiene di non aver avuta alcuna questione per

indennita' coi due assassini, ma che essi sono venuti improvvisamente da

fuori, hanno commesso il delitto e sono fuggiti, se il Caimacan di Derna col

Mudir Ahmed Suan ed il Giudice inquirente hanno accettato le idee del signor

Norton in proposito e gli hanno procurato dei testimoni in appoggio, e' opinione di tutte le Autorita' Consolari Italiane in Tripolitania che la ver-

sione ufficiale, con sospetti piu' o meno espressi sull'istigazione degli

Italiani, sia un'azione combinata per combattere l'iniziativa italiana, creandole difficolta' con quella americana.

Le voci sparse a Malta sulla istigazione italiana nel

delitto di Girene, sono evidentemente opera degli impiegati maltesi della

Missione e della popolazione maltese di Bengasi e Derna, la quale e' naturalmente ostile all'influenza italiana in quelle regioni, ed e' ben deplo-

revole che di queste voci diffamatorie sia stato informato il Governo

Americano come se si trattasse di fatti provati. Se gli assassini non

sono stati arrestati finora - e sembra probabile che non si arresteranno

mai - cio' e' dovuto allo stato di anarchia in cui si trova l'interno del

paese, alla incapacita' ed al malvolere delle Autorita' Turche contro le

quali gli sforzi del signor Norton saranno sempre vani e che nessun buon-
volere da parte delle Autorita' Consolari Italiane potrebbe rendere effi-
caci.

Contro le accuse e le insinuazioni di aver protetto i

membri delle famiglie degli assassini nel tempo in cui questi erano inseguiti dalla Autorita' Ottomana e che si recarono nell'interno per rintracciare ed arrestare i presunti complici degli assassini, il Regio Console Bernabei protesta con tutta la forza del suo animo. E lecito domandare come mai sia a cognizione dell'autore del pro-memoria suddetto che gli assassini attualmente si vantano del loro atto e se ne ridono dell'idea della punizione, allorché gli assassini sono irreperibili.

Il pro-memoria mette in rapporto coi fatti suaccennati il ritardo del Banco di Roma - Sede di Derna - nel pagare un assegno telegrafico mandatogli per la via di Roma, quasi che anche per altre vie gli Italiani del Banco volessero fare dell'ostruzionismo contro di lui. In esso e' detto che il Banco stesso ha dichiarato di aver ricevuto soltanto il 27 Marzo un avviso telegrafico venuto da Londra il 15 dello stesso mese. Ma chi conosce il modo con cui funzionano i telegrafi in Tripolitania, dovrebbe anzi dire che tale telegramma e' arrivato piuttosto rapidamente. E infatti noto che le lentezze del funzionamento telegrafico in Cirenaica e Tripolitania formano argomento di lagmanne generali, non solo da parte dei privati, ma anche e specialmente da parte dei Consoli esteri.

Quanto all'appunto fatto al dottor Basson, che, avvisato dal sig. Norton non essere più richiesti i suoi servizi, avrebbe detto che egli veniva "per altri scopi", nulla risulta dai rapporti del Regio Consolato in Derna al riguardo, ed al Regio Console Bernabei, poi, pare impossibile credere che quel dottore sia caduto in tale enigma".

Non si comprende poi se l'espressione " sollecitudine per gli

americani " attribuita al tentativo del dottor Mei di raggiungere la Missione - tentativo reso vano dalla burrasca - vada intesa come lode o come ironia. Cio' che sorprende si e' che l'autore del pro-memoria ignori che il dottor Mei partì da Bengasi, e non da Tripoli, e come egli fosse stato inviato dal Console Barnabei nel dubbio che il dottor Besson, per le sue condizioni di salute, si fosse o no recato a Cirene.

Dopo il delitto il R. Console Barnabei ha avuto cura di recarsi immediatamente dal Consolato Inglese, che rappresenta gli interessi americani colà, a presentargli le condoglianze del R. Consolato e della Colonia Italiana di Bengasi, mettendo a sua disposizione l'opera del Vice Consola a Derna nel caso che fosse ritenuta necessaria per la difesa degli interessi americani nel suo distretto. Un telegramma di condoglianze fu spedito a Cirene dal Regio Vice Consolo sig.

Sabetta. L'appunto mosso alla Missione Archeologica Italiana che - come si è detto nel pro-memoria - scavava in quel momento a Tocra, di non aver neppur essa mandato alcuna condoglianza al signor Norton, è una insinuazione evidente, poiché doveva essere notorio che nessuna missione italiana stava a Tocra in quel tempo per scavi od altre ragioni. Difatti il Capo di essa, prof. Halbherr era, in quei giorni, in viaggio di missione a Costantinopoli per ordine del Ministero degli Affari Esteri, ed i due membri, dottori Aurigemma e Beguinot, si trovavano in città a Bengasi, non occupati in lavoro archeologico, ma a prendere lezioni di lingua araba.

L'incaricamento del processo per l'assassinio del signor Decou

e' stato dalla Sezione d'accusa di Tripoli rinvianto al Sostituto Procuratore

Imperiale di Bengasi e da questo trasmesso al Giudice Istruttore di Derna per un supplemento d'istruttoria circa la testimonianza dei beduini, i quali denunziarono gli italiani quali mandanti dell'assassinio stesso. Quattro dei sette testimoni citati nell'istruttoria supplementare - invitati a specificare i nomi dei presunti mandanti da essi denunciati sotto la denominazione generica di

"italiani" - risposero di aver sentito cio' vagamente, ma di non essere in grado di fare alcun nome. Gli altri tre dichiararono di aver incontrato per la campagna i due noti assassini, i quali dissero loro di aver ucciso un americano per il prezzo di ottanta lire turche per incarico avuto da un concessionario di bestiame appartenente ad italiani. Invitati a denunciare il nome del presunto concessionario di bestiame, essi dichiararono di non conoscerlo. Tutto cio' e' invero molto vago e non costituisce neppure il principio di una prova: tanto e' vero che finora le Autorita' Consolari non hanno ricevuto alcuna domanda di far comparire alcun cittadino italiano quale teste.

Non consta affatto alle Autorita' Italiane in Tripolitania e Cirenaica che sia credenza piu' o meno apertamente espressa dai Capi indigeni e da funzionari indigeni e stranieri, che il delitto sia stato commesso con conoscenza o ad istigazione di italiani. Finche' si cita il Consiglio degli Sceick di Cirene, od il Caimacan od altri funzionari Turchi ed Arabi che circondavano la Missione, si ha il diritto di ritenere che le deposizioni di questi possano dipendere da interessi personali o da altri motivi facilmente spiegabili. Ma quando si parla di eminenti funzionari stranieri dell'Africa del Nord che dividono questa credenza, allora si ha il dovere ed il diritto di domandare che ne siano fatti i nomi.

Che della stessa opinione sia il Mutessarif di Bengasi non consta affatto. Le dichiarazioni da esso fatte in tale circostanza al Regio Console Barnabei furono, anzi, del tutto contrarie. Egli gli disse chiaramente di non credere che nel delitto vi sia stata alcuna partecipazione italiana/ne' ammissibile che egli abbia detto ad altri diversamente.

Che il Regio Console Barnabei abbia avuto occasione o nece-

sita' di vedere il Governatore nel suo ufficio piu' degli altri suoi colleghi, e che l'abbia avuta specialmente nei giorni successivi al triste fatto, e' cosa ovvia, data la somma di interessi che egli doveva colta' tutelare.

Translation

Royal Embassy of Italy
Washington, October 6, 1911.

101855.

Mr Secretary of State

With reference to previous correspondence exchanged with the Department of State, I have the honor to transmit herewith to Your Excellency a detailed ~~memorandum~~ showing the results of the conscientious investigation made by direction of the Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs with a view to meeting the charges brought against the Royal Consular authorities and Italian subjects in Tripoli on the occasion of the wanton murder of one of the members of the American Archaeological Expedition; which charges are set forth in the pro-memoria which Your Excellency did me the honor to send me with your note N^o. 139 of July 5 last.

Your Excellency will find in the said document a refutation of the several charges and the explanation of the actual circumstances that the writer of the pro-memoria had interpreted in a sense hostile to the Italians.

I make it however my special duty not to let go without a special answer the last part of the said pro-memoria where reference is made to the interpellations or questions that took place in the Italian Parliament in regard to the mission headed by Professor Norton.

In truth I fail to perceive the reason for making any mention of those parliamentary

discussions as if there could be any connection whatever between them and the actual circumstances recited in the aforesaid document to prove the ill will of the Italians and their moral complicity in Mr. De Coni's murder.

While some concern might have been exhibited in the minds of persons who watched with interest the progress of the Italian economical activities in Tripoli and were possibly unaware of the true ends of the American Archaeological Mission, it is none the less true that the Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs took pains to enlighten public opinion in that respect, well knowing that the Archaeological Mission's object was not incompatible with the Italian interests in Tripoli and Cyrenaica. Indeed, at the session of December 2, 1900 in the House of Deputies, His Excellency Marquis di San Giuliano had occasion to declare that "in the lists of Science, we intend to proceed in accord with the American Mission." And such was the case of the instructions issued to the Royal Consular officers in Tripoli and Cyrenaica and the reiterated assurances which I have had the honor to convey on several occasions.

I cherish a firm confidence that your Excellency now fully acquainted with the true state of things and the Royal Government's intentions toward the American Scientific Mission will take for what they are worth the facts and inferences set forth in the pro memoria of the Department of State delivered to me, and whose suspicious origin seems to be sufficiently indicated by recent events.

Accept

Accept, Mr Secretary of State, the expression of my
highest consideration.

L. Negrotto Cambiaso.

Translation
Memorandum

The remarks in the Pro-memoria of June 27, 1911 in regard to the first difficulties encountered at Constantinople in obtaining the Cyrene excavations grant to an American Archaeological expedition can very easily be explained when it is known that similar steps had been previously taken by the Italian Government to secure the same excavations for the Archaeological School of Rome. For various reasons, mostly of a financial character, the Italian application was not then pressed as urgently as it should have been, while the American application which were successful in the end were. It is therefore but too natural that the Americans interested should have known from what quarter came the simultaneous application for the Cyrene excavations in the course of the negotiations conducted at Constantinople. The interpretation of deliberate opposition put upon these difficulties is therefore entirely out of place inasmuch as the whole question was one of scientific competition for archaeological exploration in the same parts.

Besides it could be a priori foreseen that between an Italian and an American application for concessions in Cyrenaica, the ^{Ottoman} Italian Government, in view of its distrust of the policy of Italy, would give the preference to the latter, without any need of intrigue or pressure.

The charges brought against the Italians as to their spreading insinuations about the Americans and scattering false stories among the Arabs to create ill-feeling against them, are without substantial foundation since none of the persons belonging to the Italian missions in Tripoli or of the members of the

Italian colonies there make use of such weapons
~~and~~ moreover it is very doubtful that they could
have had any effect on those people.

It is quite true that Professor Halbherr, on his arrival
at Bengazi did file with the Mutesariff a new application
asking for the confirmation of the Cyrene excavations
in the name of the Italian mission and invoking
priority rights to which he seemed to be entitled by
the negotiations of six or seven years' standing; it is also
true that an effort was made to buy land at Cyrene
with the assistance of the Bank of Rome; but this does
not appear to be in this any self evident proof of
hostile sentiments toward the American Scientific
mission, the matter, as above stated, being rather
one of competition in scientific field.

Besides, even this semblance of opposition ceased
completely when it was officially known that the
excavation permit had been sent to the head of the
American mission and that every application of the
Italian expedition had remained a dead letter. Nothing
has been done by the Italians of Cyrenaica to hinder
the work of the American mission with which the
Italian mission has even entered upon agreements
for a division of the sphere of explorations; which
agreements have always been observed by it while
it was regretted that the same respect was not paid
to it by the expedition under Prof. Norton's direction.

If the Americans were confronted at the outset
with the suspicion and hostility of the Arabs, it is
certain that this condition of things was not instigated
by the Italians. Whoever has traveled in and knows

the interior of the country is perfectly aware of the distrust with which his movements are watched by the Arabs and knows how difficult it is to bring the Bedouine population to accept ideas that are wholly foreign to their mentality. The Italian Mission likewise met with an equally hostile reception in more parts of Cyrenaica than one.

The charge made against the Italian Consul General that he persisted in his efforts to purchase land at Cyrene refers to something that was done before Prof. Norton secured the excavation permit. An official commissioned by the Bank of Rome to study, on the spot, the possibility of obtaining the transfer of a field offered for sale by an Arab woman to the Bank, met the above named Mr. Norton in one of his early trips of preliminary survey. The Bank had already paid an instalment in advance for the land, and it is natural that the name of Chevalier Barnabé should have been used at that juncture because the Bank's real estate transactions were conducted at that time under the supervision of the Royal Consul.

Contrary to the assertion made in the two memoranda, no sooner had the Royal Consul heard that the official permit for the Cyrene excavations had been secured by Mr. Norton than he not only withdrew his assistance toward concluding the transfer but went so far as to induce the Bank to break off the negotiations at the loss of the payment made in advance.

The assertion that the Royal Consul and the Italian Archaeological Mission succeeded in securing a site

at Tokra and started excavations there is absolutely devoid of truth and this must have been known to the writer of the pro memoria who appears to be well posted on Cyrenaica matters. From such an assertion there might spring a suspicion that the Italian mission working at Tokra, a point lying near the place from which Mr. de Con's murderers came, could be, if only morally, involved in the wanton murder.

The shots fired into Mr. Norton's horses, spoken of in the pro memoria, are anything but the result of Italian intrigues. It appears from an investigation made by the local authorities and from the statement made to the Royal Consul ~~by~~ ^{for} whom who holds an official position there that the first shot was fired by a servant of Mr. Norton's, misled by an officer on guard; the other shots, according to rumors current in the country - which rumors were confirmed to the Royal Consul by the Mutesariff in person - were from revolvers that the personnel of the mission fired in the air in their night frolics, to the alarm of the Arabs outside.

Mr. de Con was killed in the morning of March 11, 1911. The two murderers have been identified and are really Ibrahim Ben Suel and Emnaas Abdul Gafid belonging to the tribe of Ailet Shehni of the Aesa stock which occupies Cyrene. They came from Tokra. One was seen at Juba where the Muekhir of Cyrene, by order of the Governor of Tripoli proceeded with an armed force to capture him, but whether from fear or design did not succeed in doing so. Another was seen at Gedabia on the side opposite to Tokra, in

the house of his old guardian named Mohammed el Sadek who was subsequently summoned to Bengazi but would not lend a hand in the arrest of his protégé. The murderers kept on roaming, until now, in the least accessible parts of Cyrenaica and never again came near their former residence.

It is just as untrue that the murderers have at any time been employed as shepherds for herds of cattle belonging to Italians or controlled by the Bank of Rome. The castle of the Bank of Rome both at Tobruk (Borsig plain) and at Tobligh and Gerabia is in charge of the cali of Anaglii who have been repeatedly called by the Mutasariff and told him expressly that the two murderers Ibrahim Ben Sule and Am-nass Abdul Gelil are not dependents of theirs and have no intercourse with them.

The statement about a reward of twenty pounds sterling given by the Italians to the murderers of Mr. de Con is nothing but a fable as the Royal Council has been able to demonstrate to the Royal Government in his reports of April last.

The true motive of the act, such is the conviction ^{of} ~~over-minded~~ persons in those parts, is to be found in revenge for injury to ownership rights, inasmuch as it appears from most credible information that the two Arabs had visited Cyrene to claim their share of the land sold to the Americans by their relatives and there is a letter from Hg. Mohamed Gibrini, a member of the Administrative Council of Derna, to the notable Hg. Hussein El-Mehdai of Bengazi, in which that was given as the motive of

murder the day after it was committed.

If such is not the version brought out in the proceedings, if Mr Norton - as the head of the Italian mission was assured by Captain Selds - maintains that there was no question of malice between him and the two murderers but that they unexpectedly came from other parts, committed the crime and fled, if the Kaimakam of Derna, the Muder Ahmed Suan and the examining judge have accepted Mr Norton's theory on the subject and have furnished him with testimony to support it, it is the unanimous opinion of the Italian Consular authorities in Tripoli that the official version, accompanied by more or less outspoken suspicions of Italian instigation, ~~is~~ is part of a concerted action to oppose the Italian initiative by involving it into difficulties with the Americans.

The reports as to Italian instigation of the crime at Cyrene extended to Malta are evidently the work of Maltese employees of the mission and of the Maltese population of Burghajja and Derna, which is naturally inclined to Italian influence in those parts and it is to be regretted that the American Government should have drawn its information from these libelous reports as if they were proved facts. If the murderers have not yet been arrested - and it seems probable that they never will be - the reason lies in the state of anarchy that prevails in the interior of the country, in the incapacity and ill will of the Turkish authorities against which every effort of Mr Norton will always fail and which no goodwill on the part of the Italian Consular authorities.

could make efficient.

Against the charges and insinuations that members of the families of the murderers found protection from him at the time when the Ottoman authorities were seeking them and going into the interior to locate and arrest the supposed accomplices of the murderers, the Royal Consul Bernabei protests with the full force of his soul. It is permissible to inquire how it is known to the writer of the promemoria that the murderers now boast of their deed and scoff at the idea that they will ever be punished, when these same murderers cannot be found.

The promemoria establishes a connection between the facts above recited and the delay of the Bank of Rome, through its dense branch - in paying to Mr. Norton a credit telegraphed to him by the way of Rome, as though the Italians of the Bank sought, in other ways, to raise obstacles in his way. It is said that the Bank itself declared that it had not received until the 27th of March a telegraphic notice sent from London on the 15th of that month. But whoever knows about the telegraph service should also say that that particular telegram was rather promptly delivered. It is indeed known that the slow telegraphic service in Cyrenae and Tripoli is a subject of general complaint, not only from private persons, but especially from foreign Consuls.

As for the blame attached to Dr. Besson who is reported to have said, when notified by Mr. Norton that his services were no longer needed, that he had come "for other purposes", there is nothing on the subject in the reports of the Royal Consulate at Steira and it seems impossible to the Royal Consul Bernabei that that doctor could have fallen into such an enormity.

Whether the phrase "solicitude for the Americans", affixed to the attempt made by Dr. Mei to reach the Misrau and frustrated by the storm, is intended for wave or irony is not clearly understood. What causes surprise is that the writer of the memorandum should not know that Dr. Mei sailed from Benghazi and not from Tripoli and that he was sent by Consul Bernabei who was in doubt as to whether or not the condition of Dr. Beson's health had permitted of his arriving at Cyrene.

After the crime, the Royal Consul Bernabei took steps immediately to call on the British Consul who has charge of the American interests there and to express to him the condolence of the Royal Consulate and of the Italian Colony, while placing at his disposal the services of the Vice Consul at Derna in the event of there being found necessary for the protection of the American interests in his district. Signor Iabetta, the Royal Vice Consul, sent a telegram of condolence to Cyrene.

The censure passed upon the Italian Archaeological Mission which - as put in the memorandum - was then excavating at Tokra for its having also sent no message of condolence to Mr. Norton is an obvious insinuation, for ~~it must~~ have been well known that there was no Italian Mission at Tokra at that time for excavating or any other purpose. As a matter of fact, the head of the Mission, Professor Falchetti was then on his way to Constantinople by direction of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the two members, Drs. Avrigemma and Begimont were in town at Benghazi engaged not in archaeological work but in taking Arabic lessons.

The report of the proceedings in Mr. Decon's murder case was sent back to the Assistant Imperial attorney of Benghazi by the Chamber of Presidents of Tripoli and by him forwarded to the Examining Magistrate of Derna for further investigation of the testimony of the Bedouins who had denounced the Italians as having directed the crime. Four of the seven witnesses summoned

at the further investigation - in being asked to specify the names of the supposed principals denounced by them under the generic term of "Italians" - answered that they had heard of it in - vague way but were not in position to give any name. The other three declared they had come across the two known murderers in the open who told them they had killed ~~an~~ an American for a reward of eighty Turkish pounds at the behest of a concessioner of cattle belonging to Italians. On being asked to give the name of the alleged concessioner they replied that they did not know him. All this is very vague indeed and does not even make a beginning of evidence; and evorse is this that the Consular Authorities have not thus far been asked to produce any Italian citizen as a witness.

The Italian authorities in Tripoli and Cyrenaica are not at all satisfied that it is the more or less openly expressed belief of native chiefs and of indigenous and foreign officials that the crime was committed with the knowledge or at the instigation of Italians. While the Council of Sheikhs at Cyrene, or the Kremikan or other Turkish and Arabian officials are cited, it is permissible to hold that their depositions may have been prompted by personal interests or other motives that can be easily explained. But when prominent foreign officials in North Africa are spoken of as sharing that belief then it becomes both a right and a duty to ask for their names.

That the Mutesanoff of Senghz; is of the

same opinion is not at all established. The declarations made by him to the Royal Consul Bernabei on that occasion were indeed quite to the contrary. He told him unmistakably that he did not believe the Italians had taken any part whatever in the crime and it seems inadmissible that he told different stories to other.

That the Royal Consul Bernabei should have had occasion or found it necessary to call at the Governor's office oftenes than his colleagues and that such should have been especially the case during the days following the sad event is self evident when the many interests placed under his protection there are considered.

November 6, 1911.

My Dear Mr. Ambassador:

In the absence of the Secretary I take occasion to inform you that in view of the presence of cholera at Malta, which makes inevitable the continued detention of the U.S.S. CHESTER at that port, the Commanding Officer has been instructed to proceed with his vessel to Tripoli, North Africa, in order to get into communication with the American Consul, and, in case the Consul desires to avail himself of this opportunity, to transport him to some convenient north Mediterranean port, together with such other Americans or American dependents as may wish to leave Tripoli.

867 m. 927 // 27

The American Embassy at Constantinople has been instructed to inform the Ottoman Government of the movements of the CHESTER.

Believe me, my dear Mr. Ambassador,

Faithfully yours,

ALVEY A. ADEE

His Excellency

Yousseuf Zia Pasha,

Imperial Ottoman Ambassador.

867 m 927/
3 F.F.

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.
P.L.

November 6, 1911.

My dear Mr. Ambassador,

In the absence of the Secretary I take occasion to inform you that in view of the presence of cholera at Malta, which makes impracticable the continued detention of the U. S. S. CHESTER at that port, the Commanding Officer has been instructed to proceed with his vessel to Tripoli, North Africa, in order to get into communication with the American Consul, and, in case the Consul desires to avail himself of this opportunity, to transport him to some convenient North Mediterranean port, together with such other Americans or American dependents as may wish to leave Tripoli.

112b - m 698

The American Embassy at Rome has been instructed to inform the Italian Government of the movements of the CHESTER.

Believe me, my dear Mr. Ambassador,

Faithfully yours,

ALVEY A. ADAMS

His Excellency
Marchese Cusani Confalonieri.
Ambassador of Italy.

867 m 927/ 3 P/P1/F

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

PL

No. 206.

November 7, 1911.

Excellency:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note of October 6th with which your Embassy transmitted a detailed memorandum setting forth the results of an investigation by the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs into the circumstances of the murder of a member of the American Archaeological Expedition at Cyrene in March last.

627/1128

Inasmuch as there appears to be under present circumstances no necessity for a determination of the several questions of fact in regard to which the information of the Italian Government differs from that upon which

this

His Excellency

Marchese Cusani Confalonieri,
Ambassador of Italy.

this Department based the memorandum transmitted with its note of July 5th last, I venture to reserve for the time being the consideration of the various issues involved.

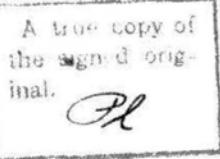
Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

ALVEY A. ADAMS

Acting Secretary of State.

867 m. 927/127

3 MM/P1E
SRC



Confidential.

November 9, 1911.

No. 2.

The Honorable

Thomas J. O'Brien,

American Ambassador,

Rome.

Sir:

Referring to the confidential instruction, No. 221, of July 7th, with which the Department transmitted to your Embassy a copy of a note addressed to the Italian Ambassador on July 5th, together with an accompanying memorandum on the subject of the murder at Cyrene of Mr. Herbert F. DeCou, there are enclosed for your confidential information a translation of the reply received from the Italian Embassy, and a copy of the Department's acknowledgement thereof.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ALVEY A. ADEE

Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosures:

From Italian Embassy.
October 6, 1911;
To Italian Embassy,
November 7, 1911.

867 m. 927/127

3 MM/P1 F.

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

JH

867 m. 927/127

Confidential.

No. 42.

November 9, 1911.

The Honorable

William W. Rockhill,

American Ambassador,

Constantinople..

Sir:

Referring to the confidential instruction, No. 371, of July 7th, with which the Department transmitted to your Embassy a copy of a note addressed to the Italian Ambassador on July 5th, together with an accompanying memorandum on the subject of the murder at Cyrene of Mr. Herbert F. DeCou, there are enclosed for your confidential information a translation of the reply received from the Italian Embassy, and a copy of the Department's acknowledgement thereof.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ALVEY A. ADDE

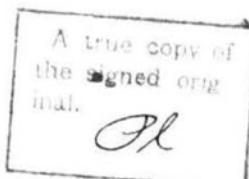
Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosures:

From Italian Embassy,
October 6, 1911;
To Italian Embassy,
November 7, 1911.

867 m. 927/127

3 MM/Pl F.



IN REPLY ADDRESS

RE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY,
AND REFER TO NO.

Sent to Rome

c/o, Oct. 11, 1911.

To Tripoli, Oct. 12, 1911

Arr'd Oct. 14, 1911.

Op-R-C

39

27493-11911.

NAVY DEPARTMENT.



Sir:-

I have the honor to inform you that, in accordance with the request of the Department of State, the following telegram has this day been forwarded to the Commanding Officer of the U. S. S. CHESTER, at Malta:

"The Italian Government represents through the embassy here that Richard Norton, by arrangement with counsellor of the Turkish Embassy at London, England, has left or intends shortly to leave for Cyrene, Africa, for the purpose of creating serious incident with Italian authorities and thus disturb relations between Italy and the United States Government by exaggerating incident and exciting American public opinion against Italy. Friend reported to have endeavored vainly to dissuade Norton. The Italian Government informs this Government of this fact "in order that it may be able to avoid any unfortunate incident that might arise from the conduct of Norton and for which the Royal Government henceforth declines all responsibility", and requests that the execution of Norton's intentions may be prevented by this Government.

The State Department understands that Allison Armour leaves Marseilles to-day for Malta and requests that you bring the foregoing to his attention and secure statement regarding Norton's movements and plans. In view of the opinion of Archaeological Institute that present return Cyrene inexpedient, and its request that arrangements for CHESTER to accompany expedition be postponed, the State Department presumes that Armour or Norton have no intention at present of proceeding to North Africa."

OCT 22 1911
FILED

In this connection, and with reference to the Department of State's letter No. 124.67184, dated the 11th instant, I beg to inform you that, after having complied with the instructions contained in the above quoted telegram, the Commanding Officer

of the CHESTER will be directed to proceed with that vessel to Trieste, Austria, to make transfers of men and stores to the U. S. S. SCORPION, and then to return to Malta.

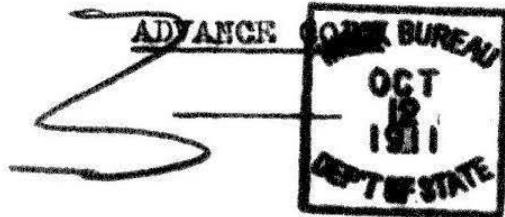
Respectfully yours,

J. J. Abbott
Acting Secretary of the Navy.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

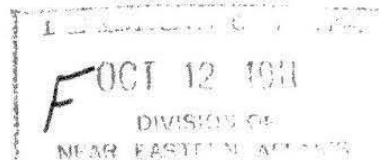
Washington.



OD-P-C

OCT 12 1911
DEPT OF STATE

October 11, 1911.



Sir:-

I have the honor to inform you that, in accordance with the request of the Department of State, the following telegram has this day been forwarded to the Commanding Officer of the U. S. S. CHESTER, at Malta:

"The Italian Government represents through the embassy here that Richard Norton, by arrangement with counsellor of the Turkish Embassy at London, England, has left or intends shortly to leave for Cyrene, Africa, for the purpose of creating serious incident with Italian authorities and thus disturb relations between Italy and the United States Government by exaggerating incident and exciting American public opinion against Italy. Friend reported to have endeavored vainly to dissuade Norton. The Italian Government informs this Government of this fact "in order that it may be able to avoid any unfortunate incident that might arise from the conduct of Norton and for which the Royal Government henceforth declines all responsibility", and requests that the execution of Norton's intentions may be prevented by this Government.

The State Department understands that Allison Armour leaves Marseilles to-day for Malta and requests that you bring the foregoing to his attention and secure statement regarding Norton's movements and plans. In view of the opinion of Archaeological Institute that present return Cyrene inexpedient, and its request that arrangements for CHESTER to accompany expedition be postponed, the State Department presumes that Armour or Norton have no intention at present of proceeding to North Africa."

In this connection, and with reference to the Department of State's letter No. 124,67184, dated the 11th instant, I beg to inform you that, after having complied with the instructions contained in the above quoted telegram, the Commanding Officer

of the CHESTER will be directed to proceed with that vessel to Trieste, Austria, to make transfers of men and stores to the U. S. S. SCORPION, and then to return to Malta.

Respectfully yours,

R. F. NICHOLSON.

Acting Secretary of the Navy.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

October 14, 1911.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Navy.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, quoting a telegram forwarded by you to the Commanding Officer of the U. S. S. CHESTER at Malta in accordance with this Department's request, and adding that after complying with these instructions the Commanding Officer of the CHESTER will be directed to proceed with that vessel to Trieste to make transfers of men and stores to the U. S. S. SCORPION, and then to return to Malta.

Rec'd - Oct 14 1911
R. E. L. 128

This information regarding the contemplated movements of the CHESTER has been communicated by cable to the Embassies at Rome and Constantinople and to the Consulate at Tripoli.

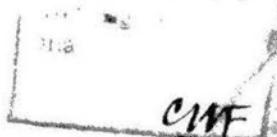
I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Frank J. Lane

Acting Secretary of State.

867-m. 927/128
3 F/P *PL*



IN REPLY ADDRESS
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.
AND REFER TO NO.

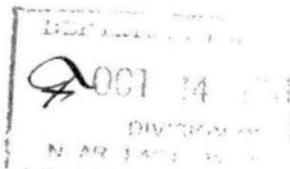
27493-128

NAVY DEPARTMENT.

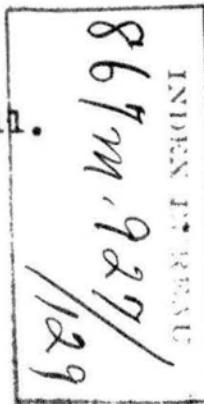
WASHINGTON. October 12, 1911.

Op-F-D

3 G. Lr.



CHIEF CLERK
OCT 13 1911
DEPT OF STATE



Sir:

Acted Oct 16, 1911.
File Pl.

I have the honor to quote for the information of the Department of State the following telegram received from the Commanding Officer of the U. S. S. CHESTER at Malta:

"Your telegram of the 11th inst., regarding Archaeological Expedition received. Armour will arrive Saturday."

Respectfully yours,

R. J. M. Watson
Acting Secretary of the Navy.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

OCT 18 1911
FILED

391

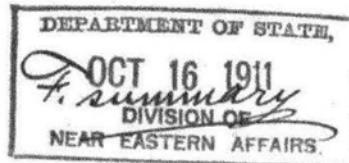
TELEGRAM RECEIVED. PLAIN.

B.

From Malta,

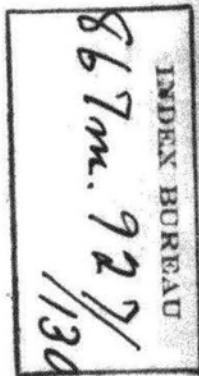
Undated,

Rec'd Oct. 15, 1911, 4:45 p. m.



Amid, Oct. 17, 1911.

File
CWT



Secretary of State,
Washington.

May Consul Laing accompany expedition as
unofficial advisor? For immediate plans see Captain
Decker's dispatch same date.

ARMOUR.

FILED
OCT 17 1911

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

TELEGRAM SENT. 3 P.M.

14 GR

Department of State,



Washington, October 17, 1911.

Armour,

Utowana, Malta.

Your telegram fifteenth answered in today's cablegram *through*
the Consul.

Knox.

[Signed by *asay*]

Oct 17/1911. m 628

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

Index Bu.—No. 50.

1120 A.M., Oct 17, 1911 3 Km

DEPARTMENT OF

F OCT 14 1911

DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS
ARCHAEOLOGY

INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

PERSONAL

Dear Mr. MacMurray.



Filer. [Redacted]

Ann Arbor, Michigan

October 11, 1911

I am much indebted to you for your ~~copy~~ or
of October 3. I am gratified with the friendly attitude of
the Italian Government manifested in the memorandum of Octo-
ber 2, a copy of which you were good enough to send me. No
further communication from the officers of the Institute
upon this matter is needed at the present time.

Kindly consult your own wish in regard to filing
this correspondence.

Sincerely yours,

James W. Kelsey

Mr. John V. A. MacMurray

OCT 14 1911
FILED



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

PRINTED IN
INFORMATION SERIESThe Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.INDEX BUREAU
OCT
16
1911
DEPT OF STATE

Ans'd Oct. 18, 1911. H. L.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OCT 16 1911

7 summary

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON

October 16, 1911.

File CMF

File CMF

8671911
INDIA
CEY 32

My dear Sir:

Referring to our previous correspondence in regard to the American expedition to Cyrene, I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your communications under date of October 9, October 10 and October 13, with enclosures.

I have the honor to inform you that I have received a letter from the President of the Institute, under date of October 12, in which he states that in order to prevent any misunderstanding, he has sent the following cablegram to Mr. Allison Armour:

"Armour Berthwick, London.

Ask Norton study remains Malta. Not proceed Africa until peace arranged and Washington approves. Await letter.

Kelsey."

The words "Ask Norton study remains Malta" refer to an arrangement which Mr. Kelsey made with Mr. Norton to work over on the spot an interesting report by Consul Laing on certain Roman discoveries which he wrote up for the Department of State accompanying his report with photographs of unusual excellence. The Department referred the report to the Smithsonian Institution, which in turn referred it to the Archaeological Institute. Norton has this with him and was expecting in any case to stay in Malta long enough to supply to the report such notes as might be needed and a working plan of the remains, so that the report with illustrations, giving Mr. Laing full credit, might be published in a future number of the Bulletin of the Archaeological Institute.

I am, Sir,

Respectfully yours,

Mitchell

OCT 21 1911
FILED

D

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

CIPHER



From Rome,

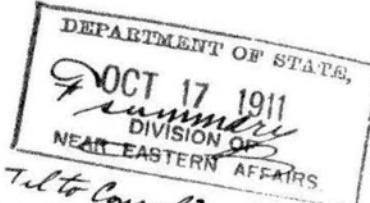
Dated October 16 1911,

Rec'd 7:05 P. M.

INDEX BUREAU

867m. 927

OCT 19 1911
FILED



Tel to Consul, Malta Oct. 17, 1911.
Tel to Rome Oct. 18, 1911.
To Mitchell Carroll Oct. 18, 1911. File

Secretary of State,
Washington.

October 16, 5 p. m.

Referring to the Embassy's telegram of October 7,
6 p. m. Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed me today
Norton is now en route for Tripoli via Malta. Italian
Government has instructed Consul at Malta to give him per-
mit for Tripoli but requests me to say that it greatly
regrets his visiting Tripoli at this moment fearing some
regrettable incident of extreme and general indignation
felt against him by all Italians. Norton published in
LONDON GRAPHIC seventh instant a still more abusive article
against Italy and Italians which has caused intense indig-
nation throughout Italy, the whole press giving the matter
greatest prominence, and GRAPHIC is practically boycotted
in Italy. I consider Norton's visit at present most ill-
advised and inopportune and feel sure will injure future
prospects of Archeological expedition if not already ruined
by Norton's unwise utterances and may moreover possibly
bring about unpleasant complications for our Government
owing to excited public opinion against him.

Deciphered by

WILSON

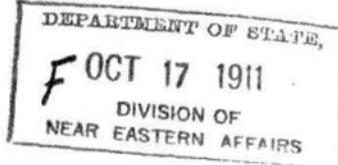
Index Bu.—No. 51.

T.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.



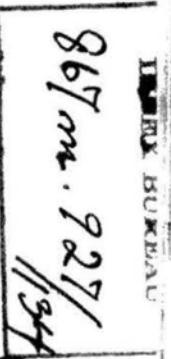
From Malta,
Oct. 17, 1911
Rec'd 1 p.m.



Secretary of State,
Washington.

Norton today received today from Italian Consul, by telegraphic order from Rome, letter introduction to Governor Tripoli.

Dilley



OCT 19 1911
FILED

A R M O U R

Deciphered by

Index Bu. -- No. 51.

3 G. L.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED. PLAIN.

B.

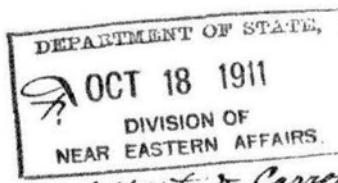


From Malta,

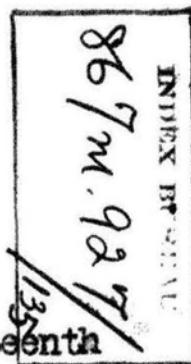
Undated,

Rec'd Oct. 18, 1911, 8:45 a. m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.



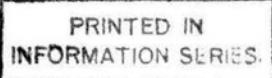
Re letter to Mr. Carroll,
Oct. 18, 1911. File CNT



Department's despatch October seventeenth
communicated Armour and CHESTER Commander. Armour
stopped Tripoli expedition.

L A I N G ,

Consul.



OCT 19 1911
FILED

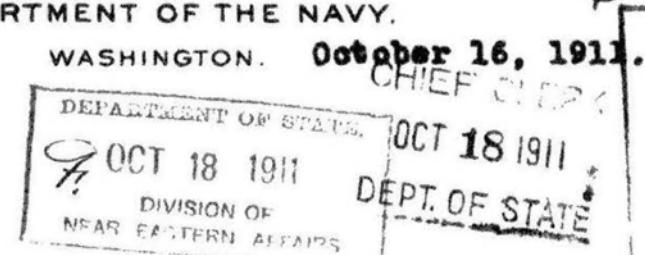
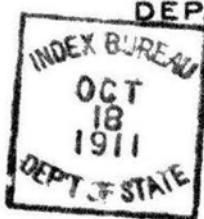
Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

To Mitchell Carroll, Oct. 18, 1911
Ans'd Oct. 20, 1911.3 J.S.
Op-W-C

17493-119:2

S I R:-



867m927/3
10/21/11

I have the honor to quote, for the information of the Department of State, the following telegram, dated the 16th inst., received from the Commanding Officer, U.S.S. CHESTER, at Malta:

"Armour quote The report of Norton's doings at London, England, as false as the Italian report of the De Cou affair. Was discussed with Minister Titoni at Paris, France, frankly. No intention to continue work until order restored, but through Titoni, confirmed by Italian Consul-General at Malta, the Italian Government provides an introduction to Italian Governor of Tripoli with the promise of instructions to facilitate immediate visit by Norton to Cyrene, Africa, to confer with the employees of the expedition regarding the preservation of property, and to furnish escort if Italian forces insisted upon visit being absolutely impossible. Shall proceed Tripoli shortly unless otherwise ordered by State Department, and hope CHESTER will accompany Unquote. CHESTER ready. The quarantine of Tripoli, Tripoli, not serious. Calls at other ports in Tripoli not quarantined may be expected to consume the period of the cruise. Should require ten days. Request authority to take as a passenger the American Consul."

Respectfully yours,

OCT
21 1911
FILED

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

To Navy Dept., Oct. 12, 1911.

Advance Copy
for State Dept.

TRANSLATION:

U. S. S. CHESTER,

Malta, October 16, 1911.

Secretary Navy,

Washington.

Armour quote The report of Norton's doings at London, England, as false as the Italian report of ~~Decker~~^{the} affair. Was discussed with Minister Titoni at Paris, France, frankly. No intention (to) continue work until order restored, but through Titoni, confirmed by Italian Consul-General at Malta, the Italian Government provides an introduction (to) Italian Governor (of) Tripoli with the promise of instructions to facilitate immediate visit (by) Norton (to) Cyrene, Africa, to confer with the employees of the expedition regarding the preservation of property, and to furnish escort if Italian forces insisted upon visit (being) absolutely impossible. Shall proceed Tripoli shortly unless otherwise ordered (by) State Department, and hope CHESTER will accompany Unquote. CHESTER ready. The quarantine of Tripoli, Tripoli, not serious. Calls at other ports in Tripoli not quarantined may be expected to consume the period of the cruise. Should require ten days. Request authority (to take) as a passenger the American Consul.

DECKER,

Commanding.

October 18, 1911.

Professor Mitchell Carroll,

Secretary, Archaeological Institute of America,

The Octagon,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

The Department has received your letter of October 16th, in further reference to the plans of the members of the American archaeological expedition now at Malta.

In this connection I enclose herewith, for the information of yourself and of your colleagues of the Archaeological Institute of America, a paraphrase of a telegram received by the Navy Department on the 16th instant from the Commanding Officer of the U. S. S. CHESTER; a paraphrase of another telegram, received the same evening from the American Embassy at Rome, and a copy of the cable instruction sent by the Department yesterday to the Consul at Malta. A copy of this last instruction has likewise been cabled to the Embassy at

Rome

867-21-9227/136

Rome for its information. I also enclose a copy of this Department's letter of yesterday's date to the Navy Department.

The Department has this morning received a cablegram from the Consul at Malta, stating that yesterday's instruction has been communicated to Mr. Armour and to the Commanding Officer of the CHESTER, and that Mr. Armour has stopped the Tripoli expedition.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

Enclosures:

Paraphrase of telegram,
from Commanding Officer of CHESTER
to Navy Department, October 16, 1911;

Paraphrase of telegram,
from Embassy at Rome, October 16, 1911;
Telegram to Consulate at Malta,
October 17, 1911;
To Navy Department,
October 17, 1911.

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

PL

867 m. 927/

3 F/P1 F.

October 17, 1911.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Navy.

Sir:

Referring to the cable despatch from the Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. CHESTER, dated at Malta on the 16th instant, an advance copy of which has been kindly furnished this Department, I have the honor to enclose herewith for your information a copy of a cable instruction sent today by the Department to the American Consul at Malta.

It may be proper to say that this Department sees no reason for requesting any alteration in the Navy Department's plans, as indicated in your letter of October 11th, to direct the Commanding Officer of the CHESTER to proceed with that vessel to Trieste, returning thence to Malta in due course.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

Enclosure:

Telegram to Consul at Malta,
October 17, 1911.

867m.927/
3 F.F.L

A true copy of
the signed orig.
inal.

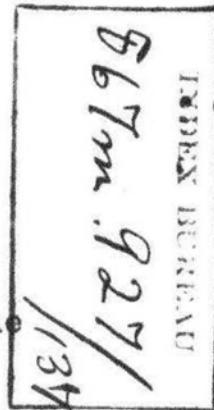
PL

961 ✓ 6. u. 1923

(Copy-Pl)

From THE GRAPHIC, London,
October 7, 1911.

Even though Italy succeed in planting in Tripoli the lurid civilisation of the Neapolitan Camorra and the hospitable brigandage of Sicily, with their well-known adjunct, the "Black Hand" of America, I doubt very much whether many tourists will find it worth while to attempt a journey in the ancient land of the Pentapolis. The Province of Tripoli is, under the present Ottoman Government, divided into two parts, one the western, of which the town of Tripoli is the head, the other the eastern, with the seat of government at Bengazi. Taken together, they stretch from the edge of Tunis on the west to the boundary of Egypt on the east. To the south the limits are rather vague, but the limiting districts in this direction are Wadai and Darfur.



Towns are few. There are only three, Tripoli, Bengazi and Derna, where one will see a Western face, and only the first of these has anything which can be called an hotel - though the less that name is applied the better. Some time ago Germans desired to put up another and a better hotel in Tripoli, but Italian influence prevented their doing this. Intending travellers had, perhaps, best note that their troubles may begin before they leave the dirty boat which has brought them from Malta. There is not a single natural or made harbour at any of the towns I have mentioned; only open roadsteads with foul anchorages.

Travelling in a yacht, as I was able to do owing to the kindness of my friend, Mr. A. V. Armour, enables one to see well the flat, and in the main cultivated, land between the sea and the high plateau which rises abruptly some few miles inland. The only discomfort that this method of going about may cause is that, owing to the lack of harbours and the unsafe anchorages, one may be marooned for several days, as has twice been my fate. I cannot call it a misfortune, for each time I was taken in charge by a most kind and hospitable Turkish officer. Caravaning overland is a more difficult matter. First one must get one's European money changed into Turkish. One way of doing this is to go about the native bazaars changing a few sovereigns into piastres at each money-changer's. Another way is to go to the Banca di Roma, where it is possible, but not profitable, to cash a letter of credit. Of course, as everyone

everyone knows who has travelled in Turkey, it is always necessary, besides paying the ordinary percentage on drafts, to pay something extra for small coinage ("chicken-feed," to use the American phrase); but I was surprised when I was working at Cyrene to be asked by the bank at Derna to pay insurance on the money for the time they had held it.

After getting the money there comes the task of finding a caravanbasti, a man that is who provides the camels, horses and servants needed on the trip. This is an affair of days, and necessitates the absorption of innumerable coffees and the listening to, and polite acquiescence in, the value of many oaths as to the trustworthiness of the caravanbasti, his innate incapacity to understand trickery of any sort, and the excellent quality of his animals. Vanitas vanitatum. However, nobody goes on such a trip who does not enjoy the quaintness of it, and at last the start is made. If the traveller is an old hand he only goes a few miles the first day, because much will be forgotten by the various members of the party, and the whole caravan must be shaken together. Once again, then, the interest begins. The upland of Tripoli offers many surprises. There is not a sign of made road in the whole country, but one follows the vilest of semi-visible trails. Though the general aspect of the country is of an arid, gently rolling plain, one finds that the apparently soft contour is frequently broken by precipitous and rocky gorges, where the horses often fall, and where, if a camel goes down, an interminable delay occurs. It is often impossible to pass on either side of the fallen brute, and the advance is delayed till after soul-rending grunts and gurgles on his part, and many yells and strange oaths by the Arabs, the long-suffering camel is somehow pulled and lifted to his feet.

That is one trouble. Others are that the guides turn out to know nothing of the road, or there is no water at the well, or no food at the Arab encampment where you pass the night. But all these are nothing to the enjoyments. The whole country in the neighbourhood of the seaboard is covered with ruins of ancient civilisations. There are the Arab villages or temporary encampments, where one gets into relation with other points of view of life; there is the fine wild scenery - in fact, all the strangeness and surprise of wandering through a land where, though there is much travel, there are no pavements and many people but few houses. Black goat-hair tents lying close to the ground or the rock-cut tombs of vanished races are the homes of many of the inhabitants. Near the oases are, it is true, conglomerations of mud-houses, but the strongest memory one takes

takes away is of a country where little difference is made between night and day, where the natives supply your wants with no visible means of doing so, and where the officials enable you to do what you desire.

RICHARD NORTON.

Unlike Germany, whose Chancellor declared not long since, in connection with the Morocco dispute, that for two European nations to go to war for "a few sandhills in Africa" was unthinkable to him, Italy has taken the risk of lighting the flames of a world-wide conflagration, and drawn the sword on Turkey to gain possession of, perhaps, the most unprofitable territory in all Africa. A land of desert sand-wastes, barren and inhospitable, waterless, and, at the present time, furthermore, dried up for three years in which no rain at all has fallen throughout the country, Tripoli offers the most cheerless return for the costly expenditure of blood and treasure that the adventure must inevitably entail on the aggressor. On the coast - rough, dangerous and badly charted - there are no safe anchorages. The so-called harbours of Tripoli city, Bengazi and Derna are mere roadsteads open to the storms of the winter season now setting in. The former caravan routes have long since been abandoned, trade having sought other channels through Egypt and elsewhere. There are no roads beyond occasional tracks from oasis to oasis, no rivers, little fuel, and the entire Arab population, under the influence of the fanatic Senussi movement, backed by the twenty to thirty thousand Turkish troops in the country, are ready to rise in arms in guerilla warfare against the hated infidel invader.

IN REPLY ADDRESS
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY,
AND REFER TO NO.

Op-W-C

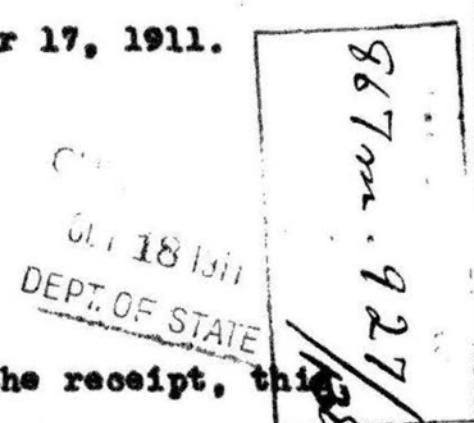
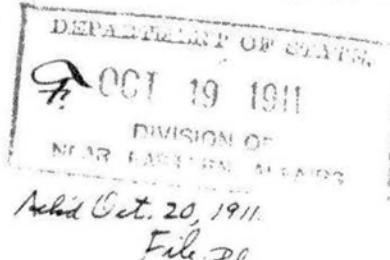
27493-130

NAVY DEPARTMENT.

WASHINGTON.

October 17, 1911.

SIR:-



I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, this day, of the Department of State's letter of even date, enclosing a copy of a cable sent to the American Consul at Malta.

The Department of State is informed that this Department has this day cabled the Commanding Officer, U.S.S. CHESTER, to proceed with that vessel to Trieste, Austria, and, upon completing the necessary transfers there with the U. S. S. SCORPION, to return to Malta and await further orders.

Respectfully yours,

Johllynn

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

OCT 21 1911
FILED

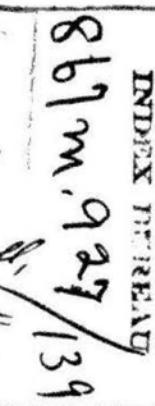
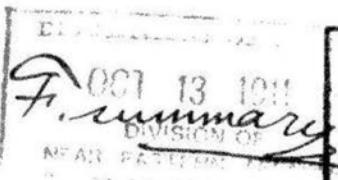
Handed to Mr. Adele,
Acting Secy, by the
Italian Charge, Oct. 13, 1911.

To Lu

CNT



Washington, 13 Octobre 1911



Copied to Mr. Carroll,
Oct. 13, 1911. CNT
Actd Oct. 14, 1911.
File P

MM. Armour et Norton, de l'Expédition
Archéologique Américaine, se sont rendus de Marseilles
à Paris pour conférer avec l'Ambassadeur Royal d'Italie
dans cette ville. Ils lui ont exprimé le désir de se
rendre sur les lieux des fouilles uniquement pour
parler au Mudir arabe et pour prendre les mesures néces-
saires afin que le matériel recueilli ne soit pas dis-
persé, en le priant de leur procurer, par l'entremise
du Consul Royal à Malte, une lettre de recommandation
du Gouvernement Royal pour le Commandant du Corps d'oc-
cupation à Tripolis. Ils ont de même demandé que le
Commandant des forces militaires italiennes leur accorde
toute la protection possible en leur donnant un escorte
pour les accompagner sur le lieu des fouilles dès que
l'occupation des troupes italiennes sera arrivée jusque là.

Le Gouvernement Italien, pour donner une preuve
de déférence et de bonne volonté a télégraphié au Consul
Royal à Malte dans le sens désiré.

OCT 18 1911
FILED

Translation

Royal Embassy of Italy

Washington, October 13, 1911.

Messrs. Armour and Norton, of the American Archaeological Mission have proceeded from Marseilles to Paris there to confer with the Royal Ambassador of Italy. They have expressed to him a desire to visit the site of the excavations merely for a talk with the Arab mudirs and to take the necessary measures to prevent the scattering of the material gathered there, and asked him to procure for them, through the Royal Consul at Malta, an introductory letter from the Royal Government to the Commander of the Corps of Occupation at Tripoli. They also asked that the Commander of the Italian military forces extend them every possible protection and furnish them with an escort to accompany them to the site of the excavations as soon as Italian occupation shall have reached that far.

The Italian Government in evidence of its deference and good will has telegraphed to the Royal Consul at Malta in the desired case.

It remains understood that these gentlemen cannot proceed to Cyrenaica until the military Commander deems it feasible, timely and safe; all the more as their immediate visit to those parts would not seem advisable in view of the rather smirking impression created among the Italians by certain articles offensive to Italy published in the London Times and Graphic by Mr. Norton.

Il reste entendu que ces Messieurs ne pourront se rendre en Cyrénaique que lorsque le Commandant militaire le jugera possible, opportun et sans danger; d'autant plus que leur voyage immédiat pour ces lieux ne semblerait pas conseillable, étant donné l'impression assez vive que la publication de certains articles offensifs pour l'Italie, faite par M. Norton sur le Times et le Graphic de Londres, ont produit parmi les Italiens. -

October 13, 1911.

Professor Mitchell Carroll,

Secretary, Archaeological Institute of America,

The Octagon,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I enclose herewith, for the information of yourself and of your colleagues of the Archaeological Institute of America, a copy of a memorandum handed me today by the Italian Chargé d'Affaires, in further reference to the movements of Messrs. Armour and Norton, and their expressed desire to visit the scene of their former excavations at Cyrene in the near future.

SAC/ALV
65/39

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ALVEY A. ADEE

Acting Secretary of State.

Enclosure:

Memorandum of Italian Chargé,
October 13, 1911.

867 m. 927/

3 P/pl F.

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

Al

3 J.S.F.

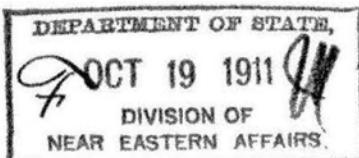
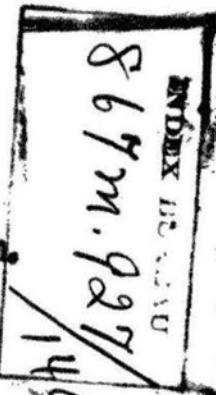
TELEGRAM RECEIVED.



From Malta,

October 18, 1911

Rec'd 4:20 p.m.



Amd Oct 23, 1911.

File

FILE
CWF
OCT 28 1911
FILED

Secretary of State,
Washington.

Your reply received through Consul. African visit
abandoned until order restored. Sincerely grateful for
advice and assistance.

ARMOUR

Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. XI.

867m. 927

October 20, 1911.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Navy.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, quoting for the information of this Department a telegram, dated the 16th instant, received from the Commanding Officer of the U. S. S. CHESTER, at Malta, in regard to the plans of Messrs. Armour and Norton, representatives of the Archaeological Institute of America.

In this connection, and also referring to this Department's letter of the 17th instant, enclosing a copy of a cablegram sent to the Consul at Malta, I quote for your information a telegram received yesterday from Mr. Armour, as follows:

"Malta.
Ott. 1/26, M.L. 28

"Malta, October 18, 1911.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

Your reply received through Consul. African
visit abandoned until order restored. Sincerely
grateful for advice and assistance.

ARMOUR."

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ALVEY A. ADEE

Acting Secretary of State.

867 m. 927/136

3 F/P1 F.

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.
PL

October 23, 1911.

Mr. Allison V. Armour,

Care of Borthwick, Watt and Company,

Copphall, London, E. C., England.

Sir:

I acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your cablegram of the 18th instant from Malta, wherein you inform the Department that the visit to Africa has been abandoned until order is restored, and express your appreciation of the Department's assistance in regard to the plans of the American expedition to Cyrene.

The Department is in constant correspondence with Professor Mitchell Carrell, of this city, General Secretary of the Archaeological Institute of America, in regard to this matter, and you will doubtless be kept informed through the channels of the Institute regarding the situation which has seemed to make necessary the postponement of the plans for this expedition.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ALVEY A. ADEE

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.



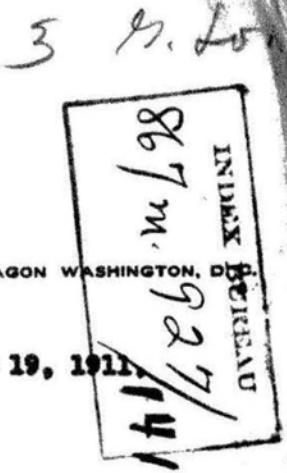
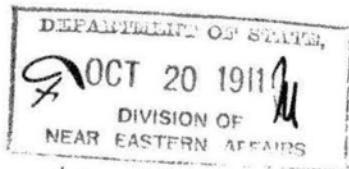
Acting Secretary of State.

867 m. 927/140
3 F/P1 F



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY



THE OCTAGON WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 19, 1911

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge your esteemed communication of October 18 with enclosures, which I have transmitted to the President of the Institute and the Commissioners of the American expedition to Cyrene.

I have just received through Mr. Fairbanks of the Boston Museum a copy of a cablegram received by him from Mr. Armour worded as follows:

"African visit abandoned until Washington approves. Notify Kelsey.

Leave Saturday for Marseilles."

Believe me to be Sir, with great respect,

Very truly yours,

OCT 23 1911
FILED

TELEGRAM SENT. 3 P.M.

SEPT OF STATE
OCT
12
1911



Department of State,

Washington, October 12, 1911. 5 PM

Racey

American Consul,

Tripoli (North Africa).

Department informed that Commander of CHESTER, after conference with Armour at Malta, will proceed to Trieste, returning to Malta about October twenty first. Plans for Cyrene expedition postponed.

Adm

867-26-9271412

Enciphered by

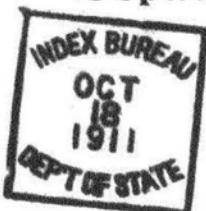
Sent by operator *Ray Hall M. Oct 12 1911*

Index Bu. - No. 50.

TELEGRAM SENT. 3 PM

JRC

1674 R.



Department of State,

Washington, October 17, 1911.

American Consul,

Malta.

and give copy to Commander of Chester for his information.

Communicate following to Armour QUOTE Department has consistently understood that Institute desires postponement of expedition to Cyrene. (period) Moreover international situation is incompatible with sending at this time either the CHESTER or Consul to Tripoli with you, and developments in situation might force this Government to disavow your visit to both Ottoman and Italian Governments should you make visit at this time by yourselves. (period) Italian Foreign Office yesterday informed Embassy at Rome that while it has instructed Italian Consul at Malta to give Norton permit for Tripoli, Italian Government greatly regrets his visiting Tripoli at this moment fearing some regrettable incident because of extreme and general indignation felt against Norton by all Italians, *because of prejudicial articles in Times and GRAPHIC.* Department not in position to order expedition not to go to Tripoli, but visit if made now will be without consent or approval of American Government.

END QUOTE

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

Index Bu. - No. 50.

12300 1617 1911 JVR

2/14/11 / L-26 . m6 28

DEPT OF STATE
OCT 18
1911

INDEX BUREAU
OCT 19
1911
DEPT OF STATE

Department of State,

Washington, October 18, 1911. 2 Pm

Ramsey

Amembassy.

Rome.

Following/cablegram/was sent/yesterday^{unenciphered}/to/Consul at/Malta;/
Quotet. Communicate following to/Armour/and give/copy/to/commander
of/CHESTER/for his/information. Sub/quote/

Department/has/consistently/understood that/Institute/
desires/postponement/of/expedition to/Cyrene/(Period)Moreover/
international/situation/is/incompatible/with/sending/at this/time/
either the/CHESTER/or/Consul/to/Tripoli/with you, and/developments/
in/situation/might/force/this Government/to/disavow/your/visit/
to both/Ottoman/and/Italian Governments/should you/make/visit/
at this/time/by/yourselves/(Period.)/ Italian/Foreign Office/
yesterday/informed/E embassy/at/Rome/that/while it/has instructed/
Italian Consul/at/Malta/to give/Norton/permit/for/Tripoli./ Italian
Government/greatly/regrets/his/visiting/Tripoli/at this moment,/fearing/some/regrettable/incident/because of/extreme/and/general/
indignation/felt/against/Norton/by/all/Italians,/because of/preju-
dicial/articles/by/Norton/in/London/TIMES/and/GRAFIC.(Period.)/ De-
partment/not/in position to/order/expedition not/to go/to/Tripoli,
but/visit if/made/now/will be/without consent/or/approval of/Ameri-
can Government./ End sub-quote. End quote. Paragraph.

Enciphered by _____

Sent by operator _____ M., 191 ,

Index Bu.—No. 50.

TELEGRAM SENT.

Department of State,

Washington,

2

Consul [Laing/replies] today | that this / message / has
been [communicated to] Armour / and to | the | CHESTER, | and that |
Armour / has | stopped | the | Tripoli | expedition. |

Thus

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

Index Bu.—No. 50.

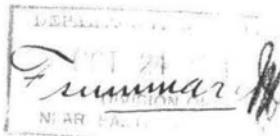
350 P. M., 1911, POWELL

AMERICAN EMBASSY,
ROME.

No. 462.



October 9, 1911.



Sched Oct. 26, 1911.
File *OK*.

INDIAN OFFICE
OCT 26 1911
FILED
OCT 26 1911

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

Referring further to the subject of the Embassy's telegram of October 7, and the Department's reply of October 8, I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of the letter addressed by Mr. Richard Norton, Director of the American excavations at Cyrene, to the London Times, of the 3rd instant, which would seem to bear out the statement made to me by Signor Bollati, the permanent Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in regard to Mr. Norton's anti-Italian utterances, and Signor Bollati added that this was one of the mildest of the many attacks he had made both in public and private against the Italians, some of which "surpassed in violence anything said by the Turkish press itself."

While it is to be regretted that the relations between the American expedition and the Italians were not better last year,

when

when Tripoli was under Turkish rule, it seems especially unfortunate, that at the present time when war exists between Turkey and Italy, the Director of the American Archeological Expedition should actively take part in a controversy concerning the political side of the matter.

It is generally believed now that the outcome of the war will be that Tripoli will come under Italian rule and it would seem wise for the Director of the American expedition to try to be on friendly terms with the people from whom he will now be obliged to ask privileges and demand protection, and I very much fear that on account of Mr. Norton's attitude the American Expedition will find itself seriously handicapped in its work and its position anything but pleasant, when it seeks to renew operations in Tripoli under Italian rule.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles L. Wilson

Enclosure:

- 1 Letter from Mr. Richard Norton to "The Times" of October 3, 1911.

46

AMERICAN EMBASSY,

ROME.

October 9 1911

"THE TIMES", LONDON, OCTOBER 3, 1911

THE ITALIANS IN TRIPOLI.

VIEWS OF AN AMERICAN OBSERVER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—The letter in *The Times* of September 29 is the first I have seen which will enable the public to see in a measure the true value of the Italian claim to Tripoli. So few Europeans have been to Tripoli that much of the information in the papers is as little true as the statement printed a few days ago to the effect that the character of the country was very similar to that of Afghanistan. I know the whole coast from Tripoli town to the Gulf of Bomba, and have spent several months between Bengazi and Derna. The dissimilarity to Afghanistan is absolute. Along the whole distance from Tripoli to Derna runs a coastal plain a few miles in width, interrupted here and there by spurs of the higher land which break down to the sea. Behind this coastal plain the land rises sharply some 2,000ft., at which height one finds an arid, rolling plateau covered with rock and bushes and here and there large extents of low scrub forest. The plain is already fairly well cultivated, but only a very small portion of the plateau. Your Correspondent seems to share the doubts, already expressed by Mr. Zangwill in the reports of the Jewish Territorial Organization, whether much could be made of this country in an agricultural way. The evidence of the classical authors, together with that of the ancient ruins, which are very numerous and of large extent, is absolute proof that some 2,000 years ago the land was highly cultivated and supported a large population. It is true that wells and springs are few and far between nowadays, but they are not so rare as the Jewish investigators who went from Derna to Bengazi a few years ago would lead one to suppose. They did not see, or perhaps it is better to say were not shown, several springs, among them the biggest of all. Then, too, these writers, who assert that the country is incapable of supplying a large population, disregard the system of dry-farming which is being practised in Arizona and Algeria, where there are stations for the teaching of the system established by the United States Department of Agriculture. Other stations exist at Haifa and elsewhere in the Turkish dominions.

It is unquestionable that these possibilities of future agricultural wealth had had great influence on Italian action in relation to Tripoli, and I have reason to think that the Banca di Roma has already reaped a rich and golden harvest. Certainly so long as these possibilities are recognized, no one can really believe that the disturbed state of a country "opposite" Italy has been the primal cause of the action which is now taking place. As for the desire, often expressed by Italian writers, to colonize Tripoli, one may well wonder whether the Italian peasant will find much temptation in leaving Italy and going to a land where he will have to struggle hard to win a living so long as the richer opportunities of both Americas are open to him.

That the country is disturbed in a certain sense I have only too good reason to know; but what I also know is that the disturbance is not due to Arab fanaticism or to Turkish inability to govern the semi-wild population, but is in great measure the result of the character of the news sent from thence to which your correspondent refers. I have travelled across a broad stretch of the country and spent several months there at various times. During all this time I had no difficulties with the Arabs after they had once learned that the reports spread about us by interested parties were false. Furthermore, the Turkish authorities have always shown the most perfect willingness to further my archaeological investigations.

Much could be said concerning the military difficulties which any European force will meet in Tripoli if the Turks resist them; but on this subject your Military Correspondents are more fitted to instruct your readers than I am. One cannot help wondering, however, if England has fully realized what might happen if one party of the Triple Alliance gain control of the harbour of Tobruk, which is but a few miles from the Egyptian frontier and is the only natural harbour on the coast between Tunis and Alexandria.

The reasons which Italy gives in the Reuter despatch to show that she has suffered desperate wrongs at the hands of the Turks have been greeted in Europe with the ridicule they deserve. Among them she mentions that she has not been granted archaeological concessions in Tripoli. This is, I believe, untrue. She was granted last spring the right to excavate Tokra. But furthermore, why should any country grant these rights to Italy, who has consistently refused for years past to allow any foreigners to excavate on her territory? Really they make one smile. Another reason adduced in the Italian case is that a young woman, the daughter of an Italian workman at Adana, was raped and then married to a Mahomedan. Disregarding the character of the town of Adana and the type of workmen who are probably there, every one knows that cases of this sort are very often capable of other explanation than the exciting one which serves the purpose of the Yellow Press. No one who knows the eastern shores of the Mediterranean and Italy, where it is not unheard of for blackmail to be sought on the plea of outraged innocence, will believe that the honour and safety due to women has been seriously endangered by the assumed unwillingness of this woman in Adana to marry her Mahomedan husband.

Among the other grievances brought forth by Italy is the murder of Father Giustino at Derna. Put in this bald manner it sounds a justifiable cause of complaint; but when I was at Derna I heard from many different sources that the real explanation of the affair was to be found in that elusive *femme* who so often has to be *cherché*.

No, Sir, let the Italians grab Tripoli if they are able; but let them at least cease to steal the laurels of Gilbert and Sullivan by such lists of grievances as those now put before us.

Respectfully yours,
RICHARD NORTON (Director of the
American Excavations at Cyrene).



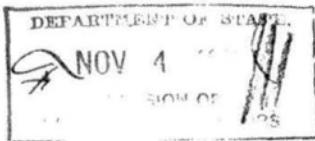
AMERICAN EMBASSY,
ROME.

SOLICITOR'S OFFICE
NOV 6 1911
DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

203

To

3 P.M.



Ackd Nov. 4

October 18, 1911.

File
CWT

No. 466

88
Ent/L26.mwh.96

NOV 8 1911
FILED

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

Referring to the Embassy's despatch No. 462 dated October 9, 1911 and its telegram of the 16th instant, I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of an article from the London "Graphic" of the 7th instant, by Richard Norton, Director of the American Expedition in Cyrene, following up, but in a more objectionable manner, his previous letter in the London times enclosed in the Embassys above mentioned despatch.

This second article has raised a storm of protest throughout all Italy, and I enclose herewith, a few cuttings of articles from Roman newspapers which may be taken as samples of those

those which have appeared in the papers of every city in Italy. In addition, various associations and societies have protested, and the Graphic is practically boycotted in Italy, even the foreign booksellers having cancelled their orders for the magazine.

The other day at the Foreign Office I repeated to the Secretary General the substance of the Department's telegram of the 8th instant, stating that the plans of the expedition to Cyrene were suspended and that Mr. Norton was going to Constantinople, at which news Signor Bollati expressed his gratification. I was rather surprised therefore when, on Monday last, at the Foreign Office Signor Bollati informed me that Mr. Norton was actually on his way to Tripoli via Malta, and a telegram to the papers from the latter place announced his arrival there yesterday.

Signor Bollati told me further that Mr. Norton had called upon Signor Tittoni, the Italian Ambassador in Paris and was most enthusiastic and flattering in his remarks about Italy and the Italians and finally asked for a permit to go to Tripoli. Signor Tittoni, who had heard nothing of Mr. Norton's letters and the excitement caused in Italy thereby, promised to secure the permit and wrote to Rome, where the request caused considerable surprise. However, Signor Bollati said that as Signor Tittoni had practically given his word, the Government did not want to refuse, and instructions had been sent to the Italian Consul at Malta and that every effort would be made to prevent any unpleasant incident arising during Mr. Norton's visit in Tripoli, much as such visit was to be regretted

regretted at this time. He added however, that public opinion was so incensed against Mr. Norton and especially in army circles, that he feared that some officer or soldier might slap his face or knock him down, which would naturally cause an incident.

I can only repeat what I have said before in my despatch and telegrams on the subject, that I find Mr. Norton's visit to Tripoli at this time, under any circumstances, most inopportune and ill-advised, and especially so after his public attacks against Italy and the Italians, and the quite natural resentment felt therefor, and this, not only because his visit may bring unpleasant consequences upon himself, but may possibly also put his Government in an awkward position.

It is needless to point out the position in which Mr. Norton's actions have placed the American Archeological Expedition. It is taken as a matter of course that the expedition will not be allowed to continue operations in Tripoli when that country settles down under Italian rule. The newspapers and even some of the officials of the Foreign Office with whom I have talked, speak of this phase of the matter as settled beyond question.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles S. Wilson

Enclosures:

- 1 - Copy of article from London Graphic in duplicate
- 2 - Clipping from Giornale d'Italia, Oct. 12, 1911 (dup)
- 3 - Translation of same, in duplicate;
- 4 - Clipping, Giornale d'Italia Oct. 13, 1911 (dup)
- 5 - Translation of same in duplicate;
- 6 - Clipping from Giornale d'Italia October 18, 1911 (dup)
- 7 - Translation of same.

From The Graphic, London, October 7, 1911.

Enclosure No. 1
Despatch No. 466
October 18, 1911

ITALY'S BID FOR A DESERT EMPIRE IN AFRICA.

Even though Italy succeeded in planting in Tripoli the lurid civilisation of the Neapolitan Camorra and the hospitable brigandage of Sicily, with their well-known adjunct, the "Black Hand" of America, I doubt very much whether many tourists will find it worth while to attempt a journey in the ancient land of the Pentapolis. The Province of Tripoli is, under the present Ottoman Government, divided into two parts, one the western, of which the town of Tripoli is the head, the other the eastern, with the seat of government at Bangazi. Taken together, they stretch from the edge of Tunis on the west, to the boundary of Egypt on the east. To the south the limits are rather vague, but the limiting districts in this direction are Wadai and Darfur.

Towns are few. There are only three, Tripoli, Bangazi and Derna where one will see a Western face, and only the first of these has anything that can be called an hotel- though the less that name is applied the better. Some time ago Germans desired to put up another and a better hotel in Tripoli, but Italian influence prevented their doing this. Intending traveller had, perhaps, best note that their troubles may begin before they leave the dirty boat which has brought them from Malta. There is not a single natural or made harbour at any of the towns I have mentioned; only open roadsteads with foul anchorages.

Travelling in a yacht, as I was able to do owing to the kindness of my friend, Mr. A. V. Armour, enables one to see well the flat, and in the main cultivated, land between the sea and the high plateau which rises abruptly some few miles inland. The only discomfort that this method of going about may cause is that, owing to the lack of harbors and the unsafe anchorages, one may be marooned for several days, as has twice been my fate.

I cannot call it a misfortune, for each time I was taken in charge by a most kind and hospitable Turkish officer. Caravanning overland is a more difficult matter. First one must get one's European money changed into Turkish. One way of doing this is to go about the native bazaars changing a few sovereigns into piastres at each money changer's. Another way is to go to the Banca di Roma, where it is possible, but not profitable, to cash a letter of credit. Of course, as everyone knows who has travelled in Turkey, it is always necessary, besides paying the ordinary percentage on drafts, to pay something extra for small coinage ("chicken-feed", to use the American phrase); but I was surprised when I was working at Cyrene to be asked by the Bank at Derna to pay insurance on the money for the time they had held it.

After getting the money there comes the task of finding a caravanbasti, a man that is who provides the camels, horses and servants needed on the trip. This is an affair of days and necessitates the absorption of innumerable coffees and the listening to, and polite acquiescence in, the value of many oaths as to the trustworthiness of the caravanbasti, his innate incapacity to understand trickery of any sort, and the excellent quality of his animals. Vanitas vanitatum. However, nobody goes on such a trip who does not enjoy the quaintness of it, and at last the start is made. If the traveller is an old hand he only goes a few miles the first day, because much will be forgotten by the various members of the party, and the whole caravan must be shaken together. Once again, then, the interest begins. The upland of Tripoli offers many surprises. There is not a sign of made road in the whole country, but one follows the vilest of semi-visible trails. Though the general aspect of the country is of an arid, gently rolling plain, one

finds that the apparently soft contour is frequently broken by precipitous and rocky gorges, where the horses often fall, and where, if a camel goes down, an interminable delay occurs. It is often impossible to pass on either side of the fallen brute, and the advance is delayed till after soul-rending grunts and gurgles on his part, and many yells and strange oaths by the Arabs, the long-suffering camel is somehow pulled and lifted to his feet.

That is one trouble. Others are that the guides turn out to know nothing of the road, or there is no water at the well, or no food at the Arab encampment where you pass the night. But all these are nothing to the enjoyments. The whole country in the neighborhood of the seaboard is covered with ruins of ancient civilizations. There are the Arab villages or temporary encampments, where one gets into relation with other points of view of life; there is the fine wild scenery- in fact, all the strangeness and surprise of wandering through a land where, though there is much travel, there are no pavements and many people but few houses. Black goat-hair tents lying close to the ground or the rock-cut tombs of vanished races are the homes of many of the inhabitants. Near the cases are, it is true, conglomerations of mud houses, but the strongest memory one takes away is of a country where little difference is made between night and day, where the natives supply your wants with no visible means of doing so, and where the officials enable you to do what you desire.

RICHARD NORTON.

Oct Cr No 2
18 466

1911

"Il Giornale D'Italia", October 12, 1911

Protesta contro il "Graphic," per le sue offese all'Italia

Milano, 11 ottobre.

La Presidenza della Società degli artisti e patriottica ha comunicato ai giornali la seguente lettera, da essa diretta alla Direzione del giornale «The Graphic» a Londra:

« Il numero 2184, in data 7 corrente ottobre, del vostro giornale, contiene un articolo firmato «Richard Norton» che incomincia come segue: « Nel caso che l'Italia e riuscisse a trapiantare a Tripoli la lurida civiltà della camorra napoletana e l'ospitale brigantaggio della Sicilia, con la ben nota aggiunta della Mano Nera d'America, io dubito molto che i turisti vorranno andare a visitare le antiche torri della Pentapoli. » Sdegnamo di fare commenti o confutazioni. Ci limitiamo a dirvi che il vostro giornale sarà d'ora innanzi escluso dal nostro Circolo, poichè la Società degli artisti e patriottici di Milano non può tollerare nelle proprie sale una pubblicazione che si permette di lanciare delle frasi così scioccamente e sconciamente offensive per la nostra patria. Vi disdiciamo quindi il nostro abbonamento avventandovi che gli ulteriori numeri del vostro giornale vi saranno respinti. — Il presidente: avv. Ernesto Tamanti. — Il segretario: rag. Luigi Battoli. »

L'indignazione da parte della Società patriottica — commenta il «Corriere della Sera» — è perfettamente giustificata. Per fortuna, se giudizi aspri non sono mancati in parecchi giornali inglesi, nessuno ha raggiunto il tono del «The Graphic», ed anche molti dei giornali che erano disposti a giudicar male l'azione dell'Italia sono sulla via della resipiscenza.

Exhibit No. 3
Document No. 466

A PROTEST AGAINST "THE GRAPHIC" FOR ITS OFFENSE
TO ITALY.

Milan, October 11, 1911.

The Presidency of the Society of Artists and Patriots has communicated to the newspapers the following letter, sent by it to "The Graphic", London.

"The number 2184, dated October 7, of this year, of your paper, contains an article signed "Richard Norton", which begins with the following words: "In case Italy should succeed in planting at Tripoli the lurid civilization of the Neapolitan Camorra and the hospitable Sicilian brigandage with their well known adjunct of the Black Hand in America, I doubt whether tourists will be desirous of visiting the ancient towers of the Entropolis".

We do not deign to make any comments or refutations. We limit ourselves to tell you that your paper will be from this date excluded from our Club, because the Society of Artists and Patriots of Milan will not tolerate in its premises a publication which permits itself to publish matter so stupidly and indecently offensive to our country.

We therefore cancel our subscription informing you that the latest numbers of your paper will be returned to you. The President: Avv. Ernesto Tamanti; the Secretary Reg. Luigi Battioli."

The indignation of the Patriotic Society, - says the Corriere della Sera, - is perfectly justified. Fortunately, if there have been disagreeable judgments in several English papers, no one has reached the tone of "The Graphic" and even many papers which were disposed unfavorably to judge the action of Italy are now changing their opinion.

4
No. 466

Oct 18 1911

"Il Giornale d'Italia", Rome, October 13, 1911

La lurida civiltà del signor Norton

Chi è il signor Norton? Poiché quest'ignoratissimo messere invano affamato di *réclame* ha creduto sia giunto il suo quarto d'ora scaraventando contro il nostro paese ingiurie da ubriacone sul *Graphic*, giornale settimanale di Londra (7 ottobre), il pubblico ha diritto di averne la biografia, che a Roma può essere sufficientemente tracciata. Infatti se il mondo l'ignora non manca tra noi chi ne conosca le gesta, avendo egli goduto per parecchi anni la liberale ospitalità romana.

Riccardo Norton appartiene alla più singolare sottospecie della fauna mondiale: è un archeologo americano, perfettamente sconosciuto alla scienza; ma grandemente chiaro nella chiaroscuro. Le sue memorie scientifiche? Inispide impressioni di *reporter illustrato*, che va disseminando sui giornali illustrati della domenica. I suoi libri? Nessuno: non è capace di mettere insieme neppure una modesta compilazione. La sua cultura? Dicono che non sappia il greco, ma delle usanze greche abbia in pratica le più vilipendiose.

Questo Ciliciano da strapazzo, questo salutario e lo sguardo smorto, questo Schliemann microcefalo così ha scritto in un articolo del *Graphic* illustrando alcune fotografie di Tripoli:

«Anche quando l'Italia sarà giunta a piantare a Tripoli la lurida civiltà della Camorra napoletana e dell'ospitale brigantaggio della Sicilia con i suoi aggiunti della Mano Nera d'America, credo che nessun viaggiatore andrà a perdere un solo giorno per visitare l'antica terra della Pentapoli».

Qualche indulgente potrà credere che queste parole siano state scritte fra i fumi del gin e del *liskysky*, assai più familiari a quello scrittore che il *Corpus Inscriptionum*. Ma il sottrattore di opere d'arte in barba alle leggi del paese che l'ospitava non è da ieri che mostra la sua avversione all'Italia e agli italiani. Bastere ricordare che quando per opera di un fanatico xenofobo turco fu ucciso a Cirene il povero De Cou, che faceva parte della missione archeologica americana in Cirenaica, il Norton architetto di turpe rottamatrice per sezionare il *manuscript* di Bengasi, suo debole amico, attri- tuando l'istigazione dell'omicidio ai nostri valorosi Haliphori ed Afrigemma! Basta conoscere questi due valentuomini per comprendere come il calunniatore sia soggetto prologo dell'antropologia criminale. Chi crederebbe infatti che tale diabolico gallo sia impiegato solo per diminuire il *baskie*, destinato alle varie autorità ottomane per avere facoltà di scavare e portare in America le memorie dell'antica Cirene?

Il diavolo, anche questa volta, ha insegnato a far la pentola, ma non il coperchio. Il coperchio tuttavia si così detto archeologo americano non mancherà e gli sarà fatto dall'Italia.

Giorai fa un nostro telegramma diceva che a Malta vi era un yacht con l'ottimo Mister Norton pronto a sognare nuovamente il greco sogno di Cirene. Spero che le autorità italiane apprezzeranno nel giusto valore le nobili intenzioni dello scopritore del *cromlech* della Libia (che hanno il solo difetto di essersi lasciati scoprire un secolo fa dall'italiano Della Cellia) e lo manderanno a denigrare qualche altro paese.

Nulla vi può essere di comune tra noi e la lurida civiltà del signor Norton.

Bach.

Ill.mo signore,

L'articolo apparso nel n. 2184 del giornale illustrato londinese *The Graphic*, che è un insulto gratuito alla dignità dell'Italia, ha suscitato lo sdegno generale.

La *Società degli Artisti e Patriottica* ha respinto il giornale e ne ha disdetto fin da ora l'abbonamento: l'*Associazione Italiana degli Alberghieri* ha deciso d'invitare i suoi soci a fare lo stesso.

Per dare maggior valore alla dignitosa protesta di tutti gli italiani contro la vile e non nuova denigrazione tentata dal giornale londinese invitiamo tutti i privati, esercenti, proprietari e direttori di luoghi di ritrovo che ricevono, sia per abbonamento, sia a titolo gratuito il *Graphic* a seguire l'esempio patriottico delle Associazioni sudette e a respingere il giornale disdicenso senz'altro l'abbonamento.

Inviamo anche quanti hanno senso di dignità e di patriottismo a cooperare con noi, per dare maggior efficacia a questo nostro risentimento, col protestare presso quegli esercizi pubblici che continuassero a tenere esposti numeri del giornale diffamatore e con l'indicarci per mezzo del vostro quotidiano, nome e indirizzo di quante persone ricevono in Italia il *Graphic*, perché possiamo rivolgerci direttamente anche a loro.

Mario Verdiani - Ulrico Aillaud -
Mario Tutino - F. Thaon di Revel -
Valentino Dore - Arturo Baletta -
E. Roncolini - Renzo Pellati - Gi-
no Capone - Mario Cabriti - Giulio
Pellegrini - Leonello De Nobili -
Publio Mengarini - Giulio Costanzi
- Provenzal.

MR. NORTON'S LURID CIVILIZATION.

Entered No. 5
Copyright No. 466
of
October 18, 1897

Who is Mr. Norton? As this unknown man eagerly seeking in vain for notoriety has considered the proper moment to have come and has thrown upon our country insults such as only a drunken man can utter in "The Graphic" a weekly London paper (October 7), the public has a right to be acquainted with his biography, which can be sufficiently sketched in Rome. In fact, if the world ignores him, there are people among us who know his exploits because he enjoyed for several years the generous Roman hospitality.

Richard Norton belongs to the most peculiar under species of the world's fauna; he is an American archeologist perfectly unknown in the world of science, but illustrious among quacks. His scientific memoirs? - Tasteless impressions of an illiterate reporter. He pours them out in the illustrated Sunday papers. His books? - None; he is not even sufficiently clever to make a modest compilation. His culture? - He is said to be ignorant of Greek but to practice the most ignominious of Greek habits.

This vulgar Chlistenes, this humanistic pork seller who has the aspect and the lifeless look of a cod-fish, this microcephalic Schliemann has written the following words in a shameful article in the Graphic, illustrated by some photographic views of Tripoli.

"Even when Italy succeeds in transplanting in Tripoli the lurid civilization of the Napolitan Camorra and the hospitality of Sicilian brigandage adding thereto the American black-hand, I do not believe that any tourist will waste his time in visiting the ancient land of Pentapolis."

Through indulgence, one might think that these words had been written under the influence of gin and whiskey, much more familiar to that author than the Corpus Inscriptionum, But the robber of works of art in spite of the laws of the country which gave him hospitality is not now for the first time showing his aversion for Italy and the Italians. It will suffice to remember that when at Cyrene poor Mr. De Cou, who belonged to the American Archeological mission was killed Turk, by a fanatic and Xenophobe, Norton concocted an infamous invention to exculpate the mutasserrif of Bengazi, his worthy friend, attributing the instigation of the murder to our noble Halbherr and Aurigemma! It is sufficient to know these two gentlemen in order to understand that their calumniator is only a subject for criminal anthropology. In fact, who would believe that such diabolic zeal would be displayed only in order to diminish the amount of bakscic Destined for the different Ottoman authorities for obtaining the permit to make excavations and bring to America the relâms of ancient Cyrene.

This time, the Devil has taught the evil, but not the remedy. But no remedy will be found by Italy against the so-called American archeologist.

Some days ago a cable from Malta informed us that there was a yacht in that port with the excellent Mr. Norton on board ready to dream again the Greek dream of Cyrene. I hope that the Italian authorities will apprise at their true value the noble intentions of the discoverer of the Cromlek of Libia (which unfortunately was discovered a century by the Italian Della Cella) and will send him to defame some other country.

There can be nothing in common between us and Mr. Norton's lurid civilization.

(signed) Bach.

Dear Sir:

The article published in No. 2184 of the London illustrated paper "The Graphic" which is a gratuitous offense to the dignity of Italy, has aroused general indignation.

The Society of Artists and Patriots has refused to receive the paper and cancelled their subscription; the Association of Italian Hotel Keepers has decided to propose to its members to do the same.

In order to give greater weight to the dignified protest of all Italians against the base and usual defamation attempted by the London papers, we invite all individuals, shop-keepers, and managers of places of public entertainment, who subscribe or receive free, copies of the Graphic, to follow the patriotic example of the above-mentioned associations and to refuse to take the paper, immediately cancelling their subscriptions.

We also invite all those who have a sense of dignity and patriotism to cooperate with us in order to give more force to this resentment of ours by protesting against such public establishments as continue to display copies of the defamatory paper and by communicating with us through the medium of your paper the names and addresses of persons in Italy who receive the Graphic, in order that we may address ourselves directly to them.

(signed) Mario Verdiani - Enrico Aillaud - Mario Titino -
F. Thorn de Revel - Valentino d'Ore - Arturo Baietta -
E. Roncolini - Renzo Pallatti - Gino Capponi - Mario Cabbrini *
Giulio Pellegrini - Leonello de Nobili - Pubblio Mengarini
Giulio Costanzi - Provenzal.

Enclosure No. 6

Copy No. 466

cf

Oct 18 1911

"GIORNALE D'ITALIA", OCTOBER 18, 1911

La faccia di bronzo del signor Norton

Malta, 17 ottobre.

A bordo del *yacht Utouana* è giunto il fiamigerato Riccardo Norton, autore dell'articolo ingiurioso verso l'Italia comparso sul *Graphic*. Così si mostra dolente che il Governo americano abbia ordinato di sospendere la partenza per Bengasi dell'incrociatore *Cester*, che resterà a Malta in attesa di ordini.

Il Norton evidentemente è risoluto a partire senza scorta e confida (*sic!*) nell'appoggio del Governo italiano, malgrado le volgarissime ingiurie pubblicate.

Si prevede che farà sollevare incidenti a scopo di recitame.

Si spera che il Governo americano vorrà consigliare il cosiddetto archeologo a smettere ogni idea, e a convincersi che né in Cirenaica, né in altra terra italiana o posseduta da italiani vi è aria per lui confacente.

Alle peregrine dotti del signor Riccardo Norton da noi debitamente illustrate giornali dobbiamo aggiungere un'altra: la faccia trosia. Infatti il sedicente archeologo americano — che ha tentato di conquistarsi un po' di notorietà negatagli dagli scienziati sul serio, chiamando in uno sconclusionato scritto per giornali illustrati *lurida* la civiltà italiana — si rivolge ora come nulla fosse, alle nostre autorità affinché lo aiutino ad insediario sugli scavi di Cirene. Non si può essere più stacchati e non si può dar conferma maggiore dell'amoralità già dimostrata per altri segni.

Anche senza tener conto che egli si è reso indegno di ogni benevola considerazione da parte di chi è stato iniquamente oltraggiato dopo avergli in Roma usato ogni cortesia; anche astriando del tutto dalla sua goffa e miserevole persona, bisogna osservare:

1. che in tempo di operazioni militari è ovvio non siano permessi scavi di alcun genere nel teatro delle ostilità;

2. che nell'interesse della scienza comune intraprendere uno scavo archeologico deve dimostrare serietà di cultura e di attitudini.

Ora «quel signore» che scambia a scienza austera con un articolo di ciarlataneria, è del tutto sprovvisto dei titoli necessari. Egli stesso ne ha fornite le prove con quel capolavoro di imbecillità umana pubblicata nel *Graphic*. Le sue impressioni su Cirene, sull'antica colonia greca e la sua luminosa civiltà, si limitano alle contrattazzazioni con i cammellieri. E' naturale: la sua mentalità non andrà mai oltre.

Non dubitiamo quindi che l'autorità militare italiana a Tripoli non mancherà di dare una buona patina alla faccia di bronzo dell'*undesirable* ospite.

E. 7
Ms. 406

MR. NORTON'S BRAZEN FACE.

Oct 18 1911

Malta, October 17.

On board the yacht "Utowana" has arrived the famous Richard Norton, the author of the offensive article published against Italy in the "Graphic". He appears much grieved because the American Government has sent orders directing the Cruiser Chester not to leave for Benghazi, but to remain at Malta awaiting orders.

Norton has evidently decided to leave without an escort, and is confident (sic) that the Italian Government will support him in spite of the vulgar insults published by him.

It is expected that he will cause some incident in order to gain notoriety.

It is hoped that the American Government will advise the so-called archaeologist to abandon any such idea, and will understand that neither in Cyrene nor in any other Italian territory a place fit for him can be found.

To the rare qualities of Mr. Morton, which we duly illustrated some days ago, another should be added; his brazen-facedness (cheek). In fact the self-styled American Archaeologist who has endeavored to gain some notoriety, refused to him by scientists, by calling Italian civilization lurid in a foolish article in an illustrated paper, now applies, as if nothing had happened, to our authorities for their help in being allowed to make excavations in Cyrene. One could not be more brazen-faced, nor can a better confirmation be found of his lack of moral sense, which he has already shewn in other ways.

Even without taking into consideration the fact that he has made himself unworthy of any kind attentions from those who have been so basely insulted after having shown him every courtesy in Rome in spite of his miserable and awkward appearance, it should be noted;

1 - that in time of military operations it is obvious that excavations of any sort should not be permitted within the zone of hostilities.

2 - That in the interest of science whoever undertakes archaeological excavations should display serious education and aptitude.

Now "This Gentleman" who confuses a grave science and a quack article, is entirely destitute of the required qualities. He has himself given proof of this with that masterpiece of human stupidity published in "The Graphic". His impressions on Cyrene, on the ancient Greek colony and its glorious civilization are limited to bargaining with camel drivers. It is quite natural: His mental powers are not capable of more.

We have no doubt that the Italian Military Authorities in Tripoli will not fail to put a good polish on the brazen face of the undesirable guest.

DUPLICATE

No. 466

October 18, 1911.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

Referring to the Embassy's despatch No. 462 dated October 9, 1911 and its telegram of the 16th instant, I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of an article from the London "Graphic" of the 7th instant, by Richard Norton, Director of the American Expedition in Cyrene, following up, but in a more objectionable manner, his previous letter in the London times enclosed in the Embassys above mentioned despatch.

This second article has raised a storm of protest throughout all Italy, and I enclose herewith, a few cuttings of articles from Roman newspapers which may be taken as samples of those

those which have appeared in the papers of every city in Italy. In addition, various associations and societies have protested, and the Graphic is practically boycotted in Italy, even the foreign booksellers having cancelled their orders for the magazine.

The other day at the Foreign Office I repeated to the Secretary General the substance of the Department's telegram of the 8th instant, stating that the plans of the expedition to Cyrene were suspended and that Mr. Norton was going to Constantinople, at which news Signor Bollati expressed his gratification. I was rather surprised therefore when, on Monday last, at the Foreign Office Signor Bollati informed me that Mr. Norton was actually on his way to Tripoli via Malta, and a telegram to the papers from the latter place announced his arrival there yesterday.

Signor Bollati told me further that Mr. Norton had called upon Signor Tittoni, the Italian Ambassador in Paris and was most enthusiastic and flattering in his remarks about Italy and the Italians and finally asked for a permit to go to Tripoli. Signor Tittoni, who had heard nothing of Mr. Norton's letters and the excitement caused in Italy thereby, promised to secure the permit and wrote to Rome, where the request caused considerable surprise. However, Signor Bollati said that as Signor Tittoni had practically given his word, the Government did not want to refuse, and instructions had been sent to the Italian Consul at Malta and that every effort would be made to prevent any unpleasant incident arising during Mr. Norton's visit in Tripoli, much as such visit was to be

regretted

regretted at this time. He added however, that public opinion was so incensed against Mr. Norton and especially in army circles, that he feared that some officer or soldier might slap his face or knock him down, which would naturally cause an incident.

I can only repeat what I have said before in my despatch and telegrams on the subject, that I find Mr. Norton's visit to Tripoli at this time, under any circumstances, most inopportune and ill-advised, and especially so after his public attacks against Italy and the Italians, and the quite natural resentment felt therefor, and this, not only because his visit may bring unpleasant consequences upon himself, but may possibly also put his Government in an awkward position.

It is needless to point out the position in which Mr. Norton's actions have placed the American Archeological Expedition. It is taken as a matter of course that the expedition will not be allowed to continue operations in Tripoli when that country settles down under Italian rule. The newspapers and even some of the officials of the Foreign Office with whom I have talked, speak of this phase of the matter as settled beyond question.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(SIGNED) CHARLES S. WILSON

Enclosures:

- 1 - Copy of article from London Graphic in duplicate
- 2 - Clipping from Giornale d'Italia, Oct. 12, 1911 (dup)
- 3 - Translation of same, in duplicate;
- 4 - Clipping, Giornale d'Italia Oct. 12, 1911 (dup)
- 5 - Translation of same in duplicate;
- 6 - Clipping from Giornale d'Italia October 18, 1911 (dup)
- 7 - Translation of same.

From The Graphic, London, October 7, 1911.

466
October 18, 1911
ITALY'S BID FOR A DESERT EMPIRE IN AFRICA.

Even though Italy succeeded in planting in Tripoli the lurid civilisation of the Neapolitan Camorra and the hospitable brigandage of Sicily, with their well-known adjunct, the "Black Hand" of America, I doubt very much whether many tourists will find it worth while to attempt a journey in the ancient land of the Pentapolis. The Province of Tripoli is, under the present Ottoman Government, divided into two parts, one the western, of which the town of Tripoli is the head, the other the eastern, with the seat of government at Bangazi. Taken together, they stretch from the edge of Tunis on the west, to the boundary of Egypt on the east. To the south the limits are rather vague, but the limiting districts in this direction are Wadai and Darfur.

Towns are few. There are only three, Tripoli, Bangazi and Derna where one will see a Western face, and only the first of these has anything that can be called an hotel - though the less that name is applied the better. Some time ago Germans desired to put up another and a better hotel in Tripoli, but Italian influence prevented their doing this. Intending traveller had, perhaps, best note that their troubles may begin before they leave the dirty boat which has brought them from Malta. There is not a single natural or made harbour at any of the towns I have mentioned; only open roadsteads with foul anchorages.

Travelling in a yacht, as I was able to do owing to the kindness of my friend, Mr. A. V. Armour, enables one to see well the flat, and in the main cultivated, land between the sea and the high plateau which rises abruptly some few miles inland. The only discomfort that this method of going about may cause is that, owing to the lack of harbors and the unsafe anchorages, one may be marooned for several days, as has twice been my fate.

I cannot call it a misfortune, for each time I was taken in charge by a most kind and hospitable Turkish officer. Caravanning overland is a more difficult matter. First one must get one's European money changed into Turkish. One way of doing this is to go about the native bazaars changing a few sovereigns into piastres at each money changer's. Another way is to go to the Banca di Roma, where it is possible, but not profitable, to cash a letter of credit. Of course, as everyone knows who has travelled in Turkey, it is always necessary, besides paying the ordinary percentage on drafts, to pay something extra for small coinage ("chicken-feed", to use the American phrase); but I was surprised when I was working at Cyrene to be asked by the Bank at Derna to pay insurance on the money for the time they had held it.

After getting the money there comes the task of finding a caravanbasti, a man that is who provides the camels, horses and servants needed on the trip. This is an affair of days and necessitates the absorption of innumerable coffees and the listening to, and polite acquiescence in, the value of many oaths as to the trustworthiness of the caravanbasti, his innate incapacity to understand trickery of any sort, and the excellent quality of his animals. Vanitas vanitatum. However, nobody goes on such a trip who does not enjoy the quaintness of it, and at last the start is made. If the traveller is an old hand he only goes a few miles the first day, because much will be forgotten by the various members of the party, and the whole caravan must be shaken together. Once again, then, the interest begins. The upland of Tripoli offers many surprises. There is not a sign of made road in the whole country, but one follows the vilest of semi-visible trails. Though the general aspect of the country is of an arid, gently rolling plain, one

finds that the apparently soft contour is frequently broken by precipitous and rocky gorges, where the horses often fall, and where, if a camel goes down, an interminable delay occurs. It is often impossible to pass on either side of the fallen brute, and the advance is delayed till after soul-rending grunts and gurgles on his part, and many yells and strange oaths by the Arabs, the long-suffering camel is somehow pulled and lifted to his feet.

That is one trouble. Others are that the guides turn out to know nothing of the road, or there is no water at the well, or no food at the Arab encampment where you pass the night. But all these are nothing to the enjoyments. The whole country in the neighborhood of the seaboard is covered with ruins of ancient civilizations. There are the Arab villages or temporary encampments, where one gets into relation with other points of view of life; there is the fine wild scenery- in fact, all the strangeness and surprise of wandering through a land where, though there is much travel, there are no pavements and many people but few houses. Black goat-hair tents lying close to the ground or the rock-cut tombs of vanished races are the homes of many of the inhabitants. Near the oases are, it is true, conglomerations of mud houses, but the strongest memory one takes away is of a country where little difference is made between night and day, where the natives supply your wants with no visible means of doing so, and where the officials enable you to do what you desire.

RICHARD MORTON.

E. 100. 2

No. 466

of

October 12 1911

"Il Giornale d'Italia", Rome, October 12, 1911

Protesta contro il "Graphic," per le sue offese all'Italia

Milano, 11 ottobre.

La Presidenza della Società degli artisti e patriottica ha comunicato ai giornali la seguente lettera, da essa diretta alla Direzione del giornale «The Graphic» a Londra:

« Il numero 2184, in data 7 corrente ottobre, del vostro giornale, contiene un articolo firmato «Richard Norton» che incomincia come segue: «Nei caso che l'Italia riuscisse a trapiantare a Tripoli la lurida civiltà della camorra napoletana e l'ospitale brigantaggio della Sicilia, con la ben nota aggiunta della Mano Nera d'America, io dubito molto che i turisti vorranno andare a visitare le antiche torri della Pentapoli.» Sdegnamo di fare commenti o confutazioni. Ci limitiamo a dirvi che il vostro giornale sarà d'ora innanzi escluso dal nostro Circolo, poiché la Società degli artisti e patriottica di Milano non può tollerare nelle proprie sale una pubblicazione che si permette di lanciare delle frasi così scioccamente e sconciamente offensive per la nostra patria. Vi disdiciamo quindi il nostro abbonamento avvertendovi che gli ulteriori numeri del vostro giornale vi saranno respinti. — Il presidente: avv. Ernesto Tamanti - Il segretario: rag. Luigi Battoli. »

L'indignazione da parte della Società patriottica — commenta il «Corriere della Sera» — è perfettamente giustificata. Per fortuna, se giudizi aspri non sono mancati in parecchi giornali inglesi, nessuno ha raggiunto il tono del «The Graphic» ed anche molti dei giornali che erano disposti a giudicar male l'azione dell'Italia sono sulla via della resipiscenza.

A PROTEST AGAINST "THE GRAPHIC" FOR ITS OFFENSE
TO ITALY.

Enclosure No. 3
Copy of
Circular No. 466
October 18, 1911.

Milan, October 11, 1911.

The Presidency of the Society of Artists and Patriots has communicated to the newspapers the following letter, sent by it to "The Graphic", London.

"The number 2184, dated October 7, of this year, of your paper, contains an article signed "Richard Norton", which begins with the following words: "In case Italy should succeed in planting at Tripoli the lurid civilization of the Neapolitan Camorra and the hospitable Sicilian brigandage with their well known adjunct of the Black Hand in America, I doubt whether tourists will be desirous of visiting the ancient towers of the Bantapoli".

We do not deign to make any comments or refutations. We limit ourselves to tell you that your paper will be from this date excluded from our Club, because the Society of Artists and Patriots of Milan will not tolerate in its premises a publication which permits itself to publish matter so stupidly and indecently offensive to our country.

We therefore cancel our subscription informing you that the latest numbers of your paper will be returned to you. The President: Avv. Ernesto Tamanti; the Secretary Reg. Luigi Batticelli."

The indignation of the Patriotic Society, - says the Corriere della Sera, - is perfectly justified. Fortunately, if there have been disagreeable judgments in several English papers, no one has reached the tone of "The Graphic" and even many papers which were disposed unfavorably to judge the action of Italy are now changing their opinion.

"Il Giornale d'Italia", Rome, October 13, 1911

October 13
H.C.

La lurida civiltà del signor Norton

Chi è il signor Norton? Poichè quest'ignorissimo messere l'avane affamato di *reclame* ha creduto sia giunto il suo quarto d'ora scaraventando contro il nostro paese ingiurie da ubriaaco sul *Graphic*, giornale settimanale di Londra (7 ottobre), il pubblico ha diritto di averne la biografia, che a Roma può essere sufficientemente tracciata. Infatti se il mondo l'ignora non manca tra noi chi ne conosce le gesta, avendo egli goduto per parecchi anni la liberale ospitalità romana.

Riccardo Norton appartiene alla più singolare sottospecie della fauna mondiale: è un archeologo americano, perfettamente sconosciuto alla scienza, ma grandemente chiaro nella ciarlataneria. Le sue memorie scientifiche? Inispide impressioni di reporter illitterato, che va disseminando sui giornali illustrati della domenica. I suoi libri? Nessuno: non è capace di mettere insieme neppure una modesta compilazione. La sua cultura? Dicono che non sappia il greco, ma delle usanze greche abbia in pratica le più vittoriose.

Questo *Cavaliere* un strepazzo, questo salumato umanista, che del baccala ha l'aspetto e lo sguardo smorto, questo Schliemann microscopio così ha scritto in un articolo del *Graphic* illustrando alcune fotografie tripoline:

«Anche quando l'Italia sarà giunta a piantare a Trípoli la lurida civiltà della Camorra napoletana e dell'ospitale brigantaggio della Sicilia con i suoi aggiunti della Manno Nera d'America, credo che nessun viaggiatore andrà a perdere un solo giorno per visitare l'antica terra dei Pentapoli».

Qualche indulgente potrà credere che queste parole siano state scritte tra i fumi del gin e del whisky, assai più familiari a quello scrittore che il *Corpus Inscriptionum*. Ma il sottrattore di opere d'arte in barba alle leggi del paese che l'ospitalava non è da ieri che mostra la sua avversione all'Italia agli italiani. Basterà ricordare che quando per opere di un fanatico xenofobo turco fu ucciso a Cirene il povero De Cou, che faceva parte della missione archeologica americana in Cirenaica, il Norton architetton un turpe romanzo per scagionare il *mutassif* di Bengasi, suo degno amico, attribuendo l'istigazione dell'omicidio ai nostri valorosi Halbherr ed Aurigeno! Basta conoscere questi due valentonnini per comprendere come il calunniatore sia soggetto proprio dell'antropologia criminale. Chi crederebbe infatti che tale diabolico zelo sia impiegato solo per diminuire il *baksic*, destinato alle varie autorità ottomane per avere facoltà di scavare e portare in America le memorie dell'antica Cirene?

Il diavolo, anche questa volta, ha insegnato a far la pentola, ma non il coperchio. Il coperchio tuttavia al così detto archeologo americano non mancherà e gli sarà fatto dall'italia.

Giorni fa un nostro telegramma diceva che a Malta vi era un *yacht* con l'ottimo Mister Norton pronto a sognare nuovamente il greco sogno di Cirene. Spero che le autorità italiane apprezzeranno nel giusto valore le nobili intenzioni dello scrittore del *cromlek* della Libia (che hanno il solo difetto di essersi lasciati scoprire un secolo fa dall'italiano Della Cella) e io manderanno a denigrare qualche altro paese.

Nulla vi può essere di comune tra noi e la lurida civiltà del signor Norton.

Bach.

7mo signore,

L'articolo apparso nel n. 2184 del giornale illustrato londinese *The Graphic*, che è un insulto gratuito alla dignità dell'Italia, ha suscitato lo sdegno generale.

La Società degli Artisti e Patriottica ha respinto il giornale e ne ha disdetto fin da ora l'abbonamento; l'Associazione italiana degli Albergatori ha deciso d'invitare i suoi soci a fare lo stesso.

Per dare maggior valore alla dignitosa protesta di tutti gli italiani contro la vile e non nuova denigrazione tentata dal giornale londinese invitiamo tutti i privati, esercenti, proprietari e direttori di luoghi di ritrovo che ricevono, sia per abbonamento, sia a titolo gratuito il *Graphic* a seguire l'esempio patriottico delle Associazioni sudette e a respingere il giornale disdicensi senz'altro l'abbonamento.

Invitiamo anche quanti hanno senso di dignità e di patriottismo a cooperare con noi, per dare maggior efficacia a questo nostro risentimento, col protestare presso quegli esercizi pubblici che continuassero a tenere esposti numeri del giornale diffamatore e con l'indicarci per mezzo del vostro quotidiano, nome e indirizzo di quante persone ricevono in Italia il *Graphic*, perché possiamo rivolgerci direttamente anche a loro.

Mario Verdiani - Ulrico Aillaud -
Mario Tutino - F. Thaon di Revel -
Valentino Dore - Arturo Baietta -
E. Roncolini - Renzo Pellati - Gi-
no Capone - Mario Cabrini - Giulio
Pellegrini - Leonello De Nobili -
Publio Mengarini - Giulio Costanzi -
Provenzal.

Enclosure No. 5
Despatch No. 466

MR. NORTON'S LURID CIVILIZATION.

of
October 18 1911

Who is Mr. Norton? As this unknown man eagerly seeking in vain for notoriety has considered the proper moment to have come and has thrown upon our country insults such as only a drunken man can utter in "The Graphic" a weekly London paper (October 7), the public has a right to be acquainted with his biography, which can be sufficiently sketched in Rome. In fact, if the world ignores him, there are people among us who knew his exploits because he enjoyed for several years the generous Roman hospitality.

Richard Norton belongs to the most peculiar under species of the world's fauna; he is an American archeologist perfectly unknown in the world of science, but illustrious among quacks. His scientific memoirs? - Tasteless impressions of an illiterate reporter. He pours them out in the illustrated Sunday papers. His books? - None; he is not even sufficiently clever to make a modest compilation. His culture? - He is said to be ignorant of Greek but to practice the most ignominious of Greek habits.

This vulgar Chlistenes, this humanistic pork seller who has the aspect and the lifeless look of a cod-fish, this microcephalic Schliemann has written the following words in a shameful article in the Graphic, illustrated by some photographic views of Tripoli.

"Even when Italy succeeds in transplanting in Tripoli the lurid civilization of the Napolitan Camorra and the hospitality of Sicilian brigandage adding thereto the American black-hand, I do not believe that any tourist will waste his time in visiting the ancient land of Pentapolis."

Through indulgence, one might think that these words had been written under the influence of gin and whiskey, much more familiar to that author than the Corpus Inscriptionum, But the robber of works of art in spite of the laws of the country which gave him hospitality is not now for the first time showing his aversion for Italy and the Italians. It will suffice to remember that when at Cyrene poor Mr. De Cou, who belonged to the American Archeological mission was killed ^{Turk,} by a fanatic and Xenophobe/ Norton concocted an infamous invention to exculpate the mutassarif of Bengazi, his worthy friend, attributing the instigation of the murder to our noble Halbherr and Aurigemma! It is sufficient to know these two gentlemen in order to understand that their calumniator is only a subject for criminal anthropology. In fact, who would believe that such diabolic zeal would be displayed only in order to diminish the amount of baksic Destined for the different Ottoman authorities for obtaining the permit to make excavations and bring to America the relics of ancient Cyrene.

This time, the Devil has taught the evil, but not the remedy. But no remedy will be found by Italy against the so-called American archeologist.

Some days ago a cable from Malta informed us that there was a yacht in that port with the excellent Mr. Norton on board ready to dream again the Greek dream of Cyrene. I hope that the Italian authorities will apprise at their true value the noble intentions of the discoverer of the Cromlek of Libia (which unfortunately was discovered a century by the Italian Della Cella) and will send him to defame some other country.

There can be nothing in common between us and Mr. Norton's lurid civilization.

(signed) Bach.

Dear Sir:

The article published in No. 2184 of the London illustrated paper "The Graphic" which is a gratuitous offense to the dignity of Italy, has aroused general indignation.

The Society of Artists and Patriots has refused to receive the paper and cancelled their subscription; the Association of Italian Hotel Keepers has decided to propose to its members to do the same.

In order to give greater weight to the dignified protest of all Italians against the base and usual defamation attempted by the London papers, we invite all individuals, shop-keepers, and managers of places of public entertainment, who subscribe or receive free, copies of the Graphic, to follow the patriotic example of the above-mentioned associations and to refuse to take the paper, immediately cancelling their subscriptions.

We also invite all those who have a sense of dignity and patriotism to cooperate with us in order to give more force to this resentment of ours by protesting against such public establishments as continue to display copies of the defamatory paper and by communicating with us through the medium of your paper the names and addresses of persons in Italy who receive the Graphic, in order that we may address ourselves directly to them.

(signed) Mario Verdiani - Enrico Aillaud - Mario Titino -
E. Thorn de Revel - Valentino d'Ore - Arturo Baietta -
E. Roncolini - Renzo Pallatti - Gino Capponi - Mario Cabbrini *
Giulio Pellegrini - Leonalle de Nobili - Pubblio Mengarini
Giulio Costanzi - Provenzal.

6

466

Oct 18 1911

La faccia di bronzo del signor Norton

Malta, 17 ottobre.

A bordo del *yacht Utouana* è giunto il famigerato Riccardo Norton, autore dell'articolo ingiurioso verso l'Italia comparso sul *Graphic*. Costui si mostra dolente che il Governo americano abbia ordinato di sospendere la partenza per Bengasi dell'incrociatore *Cester*, che resterà a Malta in attesa di ordini.

Il Norton evidentemente è risoluto a partire senza scoria e confida (sic) nell'appoggio del Governo italiano, malgrado le volgarissime ingiurie pubblicate.

Si spera che farà sollevare incidenti a scopo di reclame.

Si spera che il Governo americano vorrà consigliare il cosiddetto archeologo a smettere ogni idea e a convincersi che nè in Cirenaica, nè in altra terra italiana o posseduta da italiani vi è aria per lui confacente.

Alla peregrine doti del signor Riccardo Norton fa noi debitamente illustrate giorni fa dobbiamo aggiungerne un'altra: la faccia tusta. Infatti il sedicente archeologo americano — che ha tentato di conquistarsi un po' di notorietà negatagli dagli scienziati sul serio, chiamando in uno sconclusionato scritto per giornali illustrati lurida la civiltà italiana — si rivolge ora come nulla fosse, alle nostre autorità affinché lo aiutino ad insediario sugli scavi di Cirene. Non si può essere più sfacciati e non si può dar conferma maggiore dell'amoralità già dimostrata per altri segni.

Anche senza tener conto che egli si è reso indegno di ogni benevola considerazione da parte di chi è stato iniquamente oltraggiato dopo avergli in Roma usato ogni cortesia; anche astaendo del tutto dalla sua goffa e miserevole persona, bisogna osservare:

1. che in tempo di operazioni militari è ovvio non siano permessi scavi di alcun genere nel teatro delle ostilità;

2. che nell'interesse della scienza colui che intraprende uno scavo archeologico deve dimostrare serietà di cultura e di attitudini.

Ora «quel signore» che scambia a scienza austera con un articolo di ciarlataneria, è del tutto sprovvisto dei titoli necessari. Egli stesso ne ha fornite le prove con quel capolavoro di imbecillità umana pubblicata nel *Graphic*. Le sue impressioni su Cirene, sull'antica colonia greca e la sua luminosa civiltà, si limitano alle contrattazioni con i cammellieri. E' naturale: la sua mentalità non andrà mai oltre.

Non dubitiamo quindi che l'autorità militare italiana a Tripoli non mancherà di dare una buona patina alla faccia di bronzo dell'*undesirable* ospite.

MR. NORTON'S BRAZEN FACE.

of
Oct 18, 1911

Malta, October 17.

On board the yacht "Utowana" has arrived the famous Richard Norton, the author of the offensive article published against Italy in the "Graphic". He appears much grieved because the American Government has sent orders directing the Cruiser Chester not to leave for Benghazi, but to remain at Malta awaiting orders.

Norton has evidently decided to leave without an escort, and is confident (sic) that the Italian Government will support him in spite of the vulgar insults published by him.

It is expected that he will cause some incident in order to gain notoriety.

It is hoped that the American Government will advise the so-called archaeologist to abandon any such idea, and will understand that neither in Cyrene nor in any other Italian territory a place fit for him can be found.

To the rare qualities of Mr. Norton, which we duly illustrated some days ago, another should be added; his brazen-facedness (cheek). In fact the self-styled American Archaeologist who has endeavored to gain some notoriety, refused to him by scientists, by calling Italian civilization lurid in a foolish article in an illustrated paper, now applies, as if nothing had happened, to our authorities for their help in being allowed to make excavations in Cyrene. One could not be more brazen-faced, nor can a better confirmation be found of his lack of moral sense, which he has already shewn in other ways.

Even without taking into consideration the fact that he has made himself unworthy of any kind attentions from those who have been so basely insulted after having shown him every courtesy in Rome in spite of his miserable and awkward appearance, it should be noted:

1 - that in time of military operations it is obvious that excavations of any sort should not be permitted within the zone of hostilities.

2 - That in the interest of science whoever undertakes archaeological excavations should display serious education and aptitude.

Now "This Gentleman" who confuses a grave science and a quack article, is entirely destitute of the required qualities. He has himself given proof of this with that masterpiece of human stupidity published in "The Graphic". His impressions on Cyrene, on the ancient Greek colony and its glorious civilization are limited to bargaining with camel drivers. It is quite natural. His mental powers are not capable of more.

We have no doubt that the Italian Military Authorities in Tripoli will not fail to put a good polish on the brazen face of the undesirable guest.

Particulière

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

SEP 25 1911

DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

Ambassador Imperial

Ottoman

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

SFP

1911

Le 23 Septembre



Fils

Mon cher Monsieur



Je tiens à établir que
l'aide-mémoire qui porte
la date d'hier, le 22 Septembre
se rapportant à l'entrevue
que j'ai eu l'honneur
d'avoir eu le même jour

avec vous, ne m'a été
remis qu'aujourd'hui
et que vous ne m'avez fait
aucune allusion au cours
de cette entrevue au traité
de 1805 au sujet duquel
je me réserve de vous com-
muniquer l'avis du Gouverne-
ment Impérial.

Je vous prie d'agréer,

mon cher Monsieur Wilson,
l'expression de mes meilleurs
Sentiments.

Yussouf Krig

Private.

Imperial Ottoman Embassy
September 25, 1911.

My dear Mr Wilson,

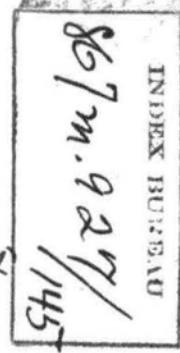
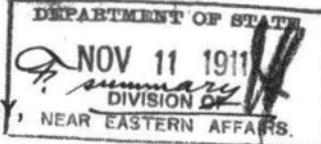
I wish to have it understood that the aise-mémoire bearing date of yesterday, September 22, and relating to the interview I had the honor to have on that day with you was not delivered to me until today and that you did not, in the course of that conference, advert to the Treaty of 1805 respecting which I reserve the right to acquaint you with the Imperial Government's opinion.

I beg you to accept, my dear Mr Wilson, the expression of my best sentiments.

Youssof Zia.



AMERICAN EMBASSY,
ROME.



No. 470.

October 21, 1911

Ackd Nov. 16 1911
File
Oct 21 1911

NOV 11 1911
FILED

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

Referring to the Embassy's despatches Nos. 462 and 466 dated October 9, 1911 and October 18, 1911, respectively in regard to the proposed visit to Tripoli of Mr. Norton, the Director of the American expedition to Cyrene, I have the honor to report that upon the receipt of the Department's telegram of the 18th instant, I informed Signor Bollati, Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, that word had been sent to Mr. Armour at Malta in regard to the proposed visit of the expedition and of Mr. Norton to Tripoli, and that as the expedition would be made without the approval of the American Government, Mr. Armour had decided to give it up.

Signor

Signor Bollati asked me to express to the Department the appreciation of his Government for its action in the matter which might possibly have caused regrettable incidents. He added that when the conditions in Tripoli became settled he could not see why there would be any objection to the American Archeological Expedition continuing its work there, "provided that Mr. Norton was no longer connected with it."

On the other hand a prominent Deputy told me that he had received a letter from Mr. Armour, who is a personal friend of his, saying that as in every probability Tripoli would soon be Italian territory, he hoped that he would assist the American Expedition in securing the same concessions in Tripoli from the Italian Government which it had held under Turkish Government.

The Deputy replied that he felt sure that Mr. Armour must have written him before he knew of the communications to the press signed by Mr. Norton as the Director of the American Expedition, and that after having seen these communications, he would therefore understand him when he replied that not only he would not help him but that he would use all his influence to prevent any concession being granted to the American Expedition and he felt sure that every Italian would do the same.

As a matter of fact several other Deputies have said the same thing to me, although I have tried to point out that Mr. Norton's opinions as expressed were his own, and should not be considered as representing those of the Archeological Institute. Unfortunately however, Mr. Norton signed one of his communications as "Director of the American Excavations at Cyrene", which has had more effect than if merely signed "Richard Norton."

While it would seem that undue importance has been given in Italy to the utterances of a comparatively inconspicuous person,

yet

yet there is no doubt as to the great and general indignation caused by Mr. Norton's articles in the English papers, and the Italian press is still continuing a violent campaign against him.

The London "Graphic" has sent a letter to each of its Italian subscribers apologizing for the article which it states is by an American correspondent who has no connection with the paper, and who by no means expresses its views.

It is most unfortunate that Mr. Norton has allowed his private feelings, as expressed in his articles, to so seriously jeopardize the future of the American Expedition, as I fear will be found to be the case.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles S. Wilson

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

January 18, 1912.

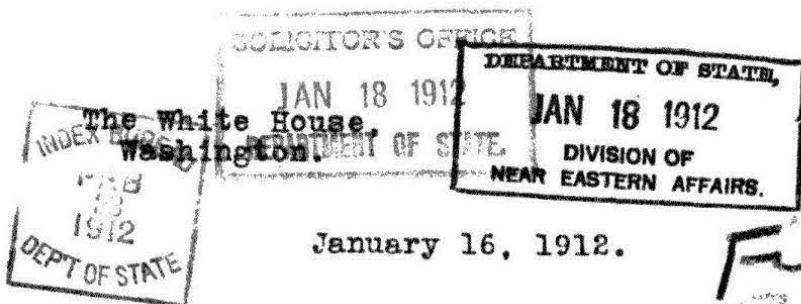
Dear Mr. Clark:

As Mr. Armour's memo. dealt with another topic besides this Cyrene matter, I have passed the original on to Mr. Hale, and submit herewith for your information this copy made by us.

I have prepared an acknowledgment, saying that the Department is giving careful attention to the protection of the interests of the Archaeological Institute. Should we do anything else just now?

I think not

(Copy-P1)



My dear Mr. Secretary:

By direction of the President I send you the enclosed copy of a memorandum prepared and left with him by Mr. Allison V. Armour, of Princeton, a member of the Commission in charge of Cyrene Excavations for the Archaeological Institute of America.

Very truly yours,

Charles D. Hilles

Secretary to the President.

Hon. P. C. Knox,
Secretary of State.

Enclosure.

- - - - -
COPY

Memorandum

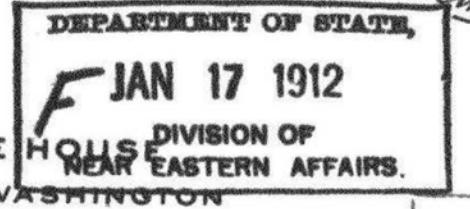
13 January 1912.

Allison V. Armour.

1. As a member of Commission in charge of Cyrene Excavations, for Archaeological Institute of America - begs that, in the event of peace being concluded between Italy and Turkey, the rights under concession from the Ottoman Government be safeguarded and that in case of opposition to continuance of the undertaking compensation be exacted; either monetary or by granting permission to remove such objects of art, etc. as were the result of previous work - or both.

Enclosed as to Cyrene, Jan. 18, 1912.

3^b



January 16, 1912.

CHIEF CLERK

JAN 17 1912

DEPT OF STATE

INDEX BUREAU

867 m. 927 1/4

My dear Mr. Secretary:

By direction of the President I send you
the enclosed copy of a memorandum prepared and
left with him by Mr. Allison V. Armour, of
Princeton, a member of the Commission in charge
of Cyrene Excavations for the Archaeological
Institute of America.

APR 6 1912
FILED

Very truly yours,

Charles D. Niles
Secretary to the President.

Hon. P. C. Knox,
Secretary of State.

Enclosure.

Memorandum.

13 January 1912.

Allison V. Armour.

- Attended to by Miss Earl*
1. As a member of Commission in charge of Cyrene Excavations, for Archaeological Institute of America - begs that, in the event of peace being concluded between Italy and Turkey, the rights under concession from the Ottoman Government be safeguarded and that in case of opposition to continuance of the undertaking compensation be exacted; either monetary or by granting permission to remove such objects of art, etc. as were the result of previous work - or both.

 2. As member of Comite International Olympique, begs that The President, as Hon. President of the National Olympic Committee, will use his influence in furthering the efforts of that Committee to have proper representation at Stockholm during the coming summer especially in sports open to officers of the Army and Navy. The President, by display of personal interest will incur the gratitude of Athletic institutions throughout the United States, comprising a membership of about 40,000.
- See copy letter to Mr. Thompson, Monday, and
Tuesday, January and
Wednesday, 2 April 1, 1912.*

January 18, 1912.

Charles D. Killes, Esquire,
Secretary to the President,
The White House.

Sir:

The Department acknowledges the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, wherein you transmitted, by direction of the President, a copy of a memorandum prepared for the President by Mr. Allison V. Armour, a member of the Commission in charge of the Cyrene excavations for the Archaeological Institute of America.

In reply you are informed that this Department is giving careful consideration to the interests of this archaeological expedition, and will not fail to take all appropriate steps in the protection of the interests of the Archaeological Institute.

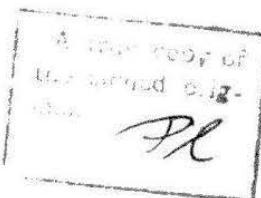
I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. C. KNOX

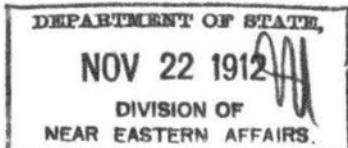
867 m. 927/14b

3 F/Pl F.





10 West 43rd Street,
New York.



21st November, 1912.

To the Honourable,
The Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.



Mr. Secretary:-

On behalf of the Archaeological Institute of America, I am writing to you to ask that the question relating to the excavations in Cyrene be reopened with the Italian Government and that that Government be sounded as to its attitude in this matter.

My understanding at the time of the beginning of the late Italo-Turkish War was that Italy undertook to recognize the rights granted by the Ottoman Government to the American Expedition.

In which case is the Italian Government prepared to grant permission to resume the work of excavation at Cyrene and also to grant to the Institute of Archaeology the objects of antiquity already excavated by the American Expedition. Or, in the case of refusal to permit the resumption of the work, then Italy to give permission to remove the property belonging to the Expedition and such antiquities as may be desired, together with a moderate money compensation to indemnify the Institute for loss owing to the interruption and refusal to permit resumption of the work.

3
INDEXED
867m. 927
147
FEB 27 1913
FILED

The sum of \$25,000 would fairly represent the actual losses to the Archaeological Institute and the value of the personal effects of members of the Expedition which were left at the camp.

My personal opinion is that the Italian Government will be greatly embarrassed in granting right to an American or Foreign Expedition to excavate in the newly acquired Territory - for two reasons, firstly, because the right to excavate for Antiquities on Italian soil has, I may safely say, never been granted to a foreigner, and secondly, as it was quite impossible to persuade the Sicilian Members of the Chamber of Deputies that the American Expedition was in Cyrenaica for Archaeological purposes only, and not for commercial reasons, it will be equally difficult now for any Government to explain the presence of a new Expedition in that same territory.

To avoid such internal political embarrassment the alternative of an indemnity might be more acceptable. In any event any settlement arrived at by your Department would be satisfactory to the interested parties.

I am, Mr. Secretary,

Yours very faithfully,

Allison V. Armano

For the Archaeological Institute of America.

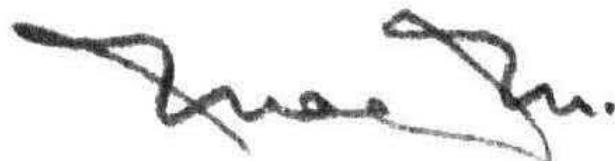
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

December 17, 1942

Mr Anderson:

In view of my very superficial acquaintance with the present phase of the negotiations concerning the Cyrene archaeological concession, it is with a great deal of diffidence that I submit to you the attached draft of a Pro-memoria to the Italian Embassy which I have prepared at your direction.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.

December 19, 1912.

Mr. Anderson desires to know if
you approve this paper as he wishes to
use it today if possible.

Count 3

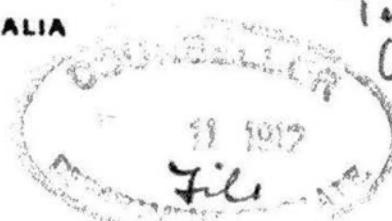
affirmative

MK

filed AMW

Handed to Mr. Anderson by
the Italian Charge
RHW

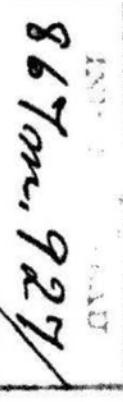
9
3



Tel to Mr.
Anderson
Dec 12
RHW

The Royal Italian Embassy, in accordance with the instructions it has received, has the honour to inform the State Department that the Government of His Majesty the King, animated by all the good will that the circumstances allow, is disposed to examine the rights that the laws confer to the American Archeological Mission and to take consequently into consideration the eventual payment of an indemnity.

Therefore, as soon as the conditions of public safety will allow access to Cyrene, it will be necessary to effect an investigation regarding to the conditions of the excavations and to the value of objects which might eventually be exported and subsequently to establish by means of a discussion in the presence of the parties concerned, the amount of the indemnity due.



DEC 21 1912
FILED

Washington, D.C.

December 22nd, 1912.

TELEGRAM SENT.



Department of State,

Washington,

December 11, 1912.

Mr. Allison V. Armour,

Renaissance Apartment,

10 West 43rd Street, New York City.

Have received today from Chargé the following statement: (Quote.) The Government animated by all the good will that the circumstances allow is disposed to examine the rights that the laws confer to the American Archeological Commission and to take consequently into consideration the eventual payment of an indemnity. (Paragraph.) Therefore as soon as the conditions of public safety will allow access to Cyrene, it will be necessary to effect an investigation regarding to the conditions of the excavations and to the value of objects which might eventually been exported and subsequently to establish by means of a discussion in the presence of the parties concerned the amount of the indemnity due. (End quote.)

Please inform me at once of your views and whether this statement is satisfactory.

C. P. Anderson.

(Official)
(not to be distributed)

WT

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

Index Bu.—No. 50.

60pm Dec 11, 1912 OXTRR

Original handed to
Mr Catalani, Italian
Charge in Dec. 20th, 1912
C.P.C.

PRO-MEMORIA.

The Department of State has received the pro-memoria under date of the 14th instant by which the Italian Embassy was so good as to communicate to it the information that the Government of His Majesty the King of Italy is disposed to examine the rights that the laws confer upon the American Archaeological Mission and to take consequently into consideration the eventual payment of an indemnity, and added that as soon as the conditions of public safety will allow access to Cyrene, it will be necessary to effect an investigation regarding the conditions of the excavations and the value of objects which might eventually be exported, and subsequently to establish, by means of a discussion in the presence of the parties concerned, the amount of the indemnity due.

84/26-7m-98

In taking note of this communication, the Department would advert to the conversation on September 30, 1911,

in

in which the Italian Charge d'affaires communicated to the Acting Secretary of State a telegram received by him from the Minister for Foreign Affairs under date of September 28, 1911, in which it was stated that the Italian Government, in occupying Tripolitania and Cyrenaica, would view with sympathy the work of the above-mentioned expedition, and would lend it its aid and its support in the accomplishment of its task.

It was in view of what was conceived might prove the practical inconvenience (no less to the Italian Government than to the expedition itself) of the Archaeological Expedition's availing itself of the undertaking thus given by the Italian Government, that the suggestion was made that the concession might be relinquished upon payment of an appropriate indemnity, based not upon the value of the antiquities unearthed, but upon a fair computation of the losses incurred, including actual expenditures, the property necessarily abandoned by the individual

members

members of the Expedition, and the sacrifice of the full or rights in the scientific exploration of this concession at Cyrene. For the determination of the amount of the indemnity thus suggested and seemingly approved in principle by the Italian Government, it would not appear necessary to institute an examination of the status and results of the explorations hitherto carried on at Cyrene. Even in the event, however, that such a measure of indemnity as might eventually be agreed upon should necessitate an appraisement of the results of the work accomplished by the Expedition, it is to be noted that the situation in Cyrenaica, as indicated by the several communications of the Italian Government in respect to the extension of its sovereignty to that region and the substitution of its jurisdiction for that previously exercised by the several powers by virtue of their extraterritorial capitulatory rights would scarcely appear to warrant on the ground of public safety the postponement of the contemplated investigation with a view to establishing the amount of such an indemnity.

The Department of State would therefore suggest, in behalf of the interests represented by the Archaeological Institute of America, that the Royal Italian Government, accepting in principle the proposal to liquidate by an indemnity all rights and interests which that organization possesses in respect to its concession for archaeological research in Cyrenaica, should make known its views as to the extent of the indemnity to be paid to the Archaeological Institute in compensation for the actual losses and expenditures incurred and the sacrifice of the further interests involved.

Department of State,

Washington, December 19, 1912.

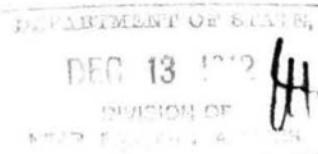
807.0907/148

5.1.3 77.1084

D

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

PLAIN



From
New York,

Dated December 12, 1912,

Rec'd 6:16 P. M.

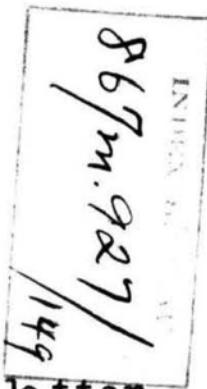


Chandler P. Anderson,
State Department,
Washington.

Reply not satisfactory. Am posting letter
this evening giving views on subject.

A L L I S O N V . A R M O U R

DEC 21 1912
FILED

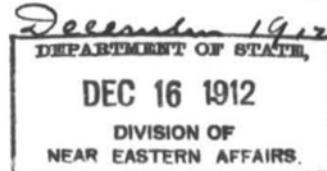


Deciphered by

Index Bu.—No. 51.

ROOM 5023
1 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

10 WEST 43rd STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y.



Index & Subject
Dec 16 1912

Dear Chandler,

The reply of the Italian Government was very clever, but quite unsatisfactory, as it spells delay and complications:

"Public safety" in Cyprus need not be restored for an indefinite period, perhaps 22 years. Discussion in presence of parties concerned" is also most complicated, as the parties are very numerous and widely scattered. In addition to the Archaeological Institute are Mr Gardiner M. Lam of friends of the Boston Museum and Mr James Lubin, who resides now in Elsinick. Also, the numbers of the working staff, whose personal losses must be considered.

Our friend the Changi evidently received and transmitted the echo that the amount of indemnity claimed was based on the value of the Antiquities found -

No: it was on the basis consequent upon

8679m.

INDEXED

DEC 1912
FILED

ROOM 5028
1 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

2

being deterred from continuing the march
and the rendering of no value the march
and great expense of the season previous
to the war.

I am sorry that we sent in a claim for
the larger sum as a smaller amount
would have satisfied all parties.

It is really as much a question of principle
as of finance.

I wish in sum may you could get
our friend to transmit to his Government
the idea that I am consulting with
both Mr. Frash and S. R. Bertron as to
the best way to further this matter. Both
having had much recent experience in
negociations with Italy and having told
me to call upon them if I require their
services or influence.

Bertron has been in very close relations,
recently, with Giolitti.

ROOM 5023
1 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

3

would they care to consider a mutual
indemnity which you could propose to us.

I expect to leave for Panama
on 18th and arrive there during Christmas
week. About February 1st should find
me back here again.

On behalf of the interested parties,
as well as for myself, I wish to
thank you for your interest in
this affair.

Yours very sincerely
Allison S. Armstrong

Ward Chapin *Parker*
DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.



November 27, 1912.

In view of the conversation which you and I had with Dr. Hoppin last Monday, it would seem that the Archaeological Institute of America really does not desire the continuance by the Italian Government of the concession for excavating in Cyrene, but would prefer to be allowed to remove the personal property of the members of the expedition, and take the finds as an equivalent for its interest in the concession. As you pointed out, however, it is not probable that the Italian Government would find this latter proposition acceptable. It would therefore seem inadvisable to suggest this proposal to the Italian Chargé.

The most feasible way to present the matter in behalf of the Institute would seem to be, as you suggested, to call attention to the valuable rights which they have in the concession, involving a very considerable outlay, and exhibiting results, in the form of finds, valued at more than \$50,000: it might then be suggested that in view of the very much altered situation in Cyrenaica, the Italian Government might find it advisable to arrange for an adjustment of the Institute's rights, which it has specifically recognized and undertaken to further, and to intimate that the Department would

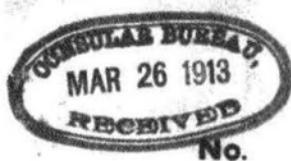
in that

FILED
FEB 26 1913

INDEX BUREAU

in that case be happy to serve as a medium for communicating to the Institute any proposal which the Italian Government might care to make for this purpose: and to any inquiry by the Italian Chargé as to the sort of adjustment that might be expected to prove acceptable to the Institute, it might be answered that the sum of \$50,000 -- an amount less than the value of the antiquities already unearthed -- would doubtless be accepted by the Institute as fair compensation for its actual expenditures and for the abandonment of its property and its interests at Cyrene.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James D. Phayre".



All confidential.

3
▼
□

91

AMERICAN CONSULATE,

Malta, March 3, 1913.

COUNSELLOR

MAR 26 1913

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

RECEIVED
MARCH 26, 1913

INDEX BUREAU

MAR 24 1913

DEPT OF STATE

SUBJECT

Disposal of Antiquities Stored by the American

Archeological Expedition to Cyrene, North

Africa.

To ▼

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 25 1913
SUSPECT
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS.

THE HONORABLE

ack + tw

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

ack
a² Mar 28/13

SIR:

File Ho

MAR 26 1913
FILED

I have the honor to report that there seems to be an Italian movement on foot to find out the value and exact location of the articles excavated from the ruins of Cyrene, North Africa, by the American Archeological Expedition. This expedition was under Mr. De Cou's direction and, upon his assassination, by Dr. Richard Norton. See my report of June 1, 1911, entitled "De Cou Murder" and also report of September 21, 1911, entitled "De Cou Murder".

The Italian Consul General in Malta has for several years had much to do with Tripoli, especially since the outbreak of the Turco-Italian war.

Several days ago, the Italian Vice Consul General here, who occupied the same position during the war in

North

North Africa under the then Consul General, Chev. Pompeo Barilari, had Victor Camilleri, chief interpreter to the American Cyrene Expedition, come to the Italian Consulate and there questioned him as to the value of the objects found, exactly where they were stored, the interest taken in them by the American Archeological Society, what means had been taken to secure any rights which the American Society had in the objects, the interest in the subject displayed by various interested persons and other matters which lead me to believe that the Italians would like to know just how much opposition would develop and from what quarters and how hard the various American interests, private and governmental, would fight if Italy should try to gain possession of the antiquities.

Camilleri gave no information which was of any value. He is faithful, I believe, to the Americans, and also his personal interests lie in the direction of friendliness to the Archeological Society. He probably will be employed by the Society when Mr. Norton takes up work in Asia Minor. His wages with Mr. Norton are much higher than what he earns here.

The excuse offered by the Italian Vice Consul General was that a Roman prince wanted to purchase the collection of antiquities and had requested information about it.

I am not informed of the exact terms of the firman in which the Turkish Government granted permission to excavate, nor what rights may have been acquired by Italy since the war, but, if the American Expedition has any claim on the objects, I believe that it should act as soon as possible.

The Expedition has, beside the antiquities, some property of its own in Cyrene about which there can hardly be any question.

If it is desired to visit Cyrene, now is the best time. In summer, the trip is difficult. Also, I fear that the Italians may do some dirty trick and, with a fait accompli in that wild country, there is no way to prove anything to our advantage.

The Italians are still indignant at articles written by Richard M. Norton, member of the Expedition in which he criticised the Italians severely.

Those Italian officials who are not really angry now, use the incident whenever it is useful to oppose an American interest which might interfere with or cause opposition or competition to an Italian interest.

If anyone goes to Cyrene it should not be Mr. Norton. He is a charming man of high culture and splendid attainments but he cannot be relied upon to keep his mouth shut. This, combined with the dislike for him which is so widespread in Tripoli, would make his presence there undesirable.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant

James Oliver Lung
Consul.

SOLICITOR'S OFFICE

MAR 18 1913 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE COUNSELOR

March 18, 1913.

Dear Mr. Van Dyne:

The Italian Ambassador has requested that the form of receipt be prepared acknowledging the payment of \$25,000 by his Government to the United States in settlement of the claims of the Archeological Institute of America and of the interests represented by it as stated in the attached copy of the memorandum signed on February 25th last by Secretary Knox and Ambassador Cusani. As the form of receipt to be given the Ambassador should be drafted with a view to the legal principles involved in the settlement of international claims, I would be glad to have your views as to the form of the receipt required and am sending you the recent papers in the case for that purpose.

You will see from the recitals in the memorandum of February 25, 1913 that the settlement on the basis of \$25,000 was agreed upon by the Ambassador and Mr. A. V. Armour as the representative of the claimants and it may be that the Department should have from him a statement of who the claimants are as well as an approval of the form of receipt by them or by Mr. Armour as their representative. I would appreciate an expression of your opinion on these points in connection with your preparation of the form of receipt.

C.R.C.

HKT

file

March 25, 1913.

Allison V. Armour, Esquire,
10 West 43rd Street,
New York City.

Sir:

With reference to previous correspondence in regard to the claims against the Government of Italy of the Archaeological Institute of America and of the interests represented by it in relation to the concession for archaeological research in the Cyrenaica, I have the honor to inform you that, in connection with the settlement arrived at between the Italian Ambassador and this Government on behalf of yourself, as representative of the claimants, whereby the Italian Government agrees to pay the sum of Twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) in full satisfaction and liquidation of these claims, it is desirable that the Department should have appropriate documents showing that you have been authorized by the Archaeological Institute and the interests represented by it in relation to this concession to represent them in the matter of settling their claims on the basis of Twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000). These documents should also include your declaration that in agreeing upon this settlement you acted in behalf of all the interests having claims against the Government of Italy arising out of the relinquishment

867mL98
WTG/Lxxb.mL98

of the

of the concession for archaeological research in Cyrenaica, North Africa, including, among other things, compensation for the actual losses and expenditures incurred and the sacrifice of the further rights in the scientific explorations under this concession.

The Department desires the information above indicated in order that it may be in a position to state in giving its receipt to the Italian Government for the \$25,000. to be paid in settlement of these claims that this payment is received in full satisfaction and liquidation of the above described claims. It is not unlikely that this Government may be called on by the Italian Government to state in connection with this settlement that no other or further claims will be presented by this Government by reason of the abandonment of the concession above mentioned, and your declaration should include all the information necessary to enable this Government to make this statement.

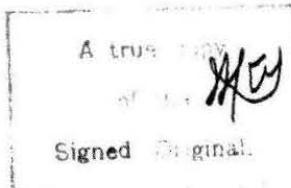
I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Alvey A. Ade

Acting Secretary of State.

▽ T Seen by *[initials]*



10 WEST 43RD STREET
NEW YORK

RECEIVED
APR 10 1913
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE
7
I acknowledge the statement made in
this letter from a satisfactory expression
of your letter of March April 7th, 1913
to Dept. of State, April 7th, 1913
as far as the Dept. desires further
information.

To the Honorable, ~~infor~~ INDEX BUREAU
The Secretary of State APR 10
Washington, D. C. 1913
a date date

Mr. Secretary:-

DEPT OF STATE

Done April 9
7
File #867
INDEX BUREAU
FILED
APR 10 1913

In reply to the letter of the State Department dated March 25th, In re: Cyrene Claim, I would say that I represent all parties interested in the Cyrene Excavations, including the Archaeological Institute of America and the interests represented by it, and have been authorized to arrange a settlement with the Italian Government of all claims against the Italian Government for having been kept from exercising rights granted by a concession from the Ottoman Government, owing to the War in Tripoli, and claims arising out of the relinquishment of the concession for archaeological research in Cyrenaica, North Africa, including among other things, compensation for the actual losses and expenditures incurred and the sacrifice of the further rights in the scientific explorations under this concession.

In conversation with His Excellency, the Italian Ambassador, on February 22nd, it was agreed that instead of his Government granting permission to return to Cyrenaica under suitable concessions and prosecuting the work of excavation for a series of years, a sum of Twenty-five thousand dollars

10 WEST 43RD STREET
NEW YORK

-2-

(\$25,000) would be paid in full settlement for losses incurred in the past by the above mentioned interests, owing to interruption of the work under the concession, as stated above.

As showing my authority to arrange this settlement, I enclose a letter from Mr. Gardiner M. Lane representing certain subscribers to the undertaking, a letter from the Archaeological Institute of America, under whose protection the work was carried on and a cable despatch from Mr. Richard Norton, who was the head of the party at Cyrene and in whose name the concession from the Ottoman Government stood. In making this settlement I am also authorized to act for the members of the staff of the expedition, who are Messrs. Joseph Clarke Hoppin and C. Densmore Curtis.

As there are no other interested parties to the undertaking, I cannot foresee, to the best of my knowledge and belief, any other claim which could arise in connection with this matter.

I am, Mr. Secretary,

Yours very faithfully,

Alvin S. Arman

WESTERN
UNION

Cable Message

WESTERN
UNION

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

INCORPORATED

THEO. N. VAIL, PRESIDENT

BELVIDERE BROOKS, GENERAL MANAGER

THE LARGEST TELEGRAPH AND CABLE SYSTEM IN EXISTENCE. CABLE SERVICE TO ALL THE WORLD

25,000 OFFICES AND 95,000 ADDITIONAL TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

DIRECT AMERICAN CABLES NEW YORK TO GREAT BRITAIN

CONNECTS ALSO WITH ANGLO-AMERICAN AND DIRECT U. S. ATLANTIC CABLES

DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH GERMANY AND FRANCE, CUBA, WEST INDIES, MEXICO AND CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA
WITH PACIFIC CABLES TO ALASKA, HONOLULU, AUSTRALIA, GUAM, THE PHILIPPINES, JAPAN, ETC.

MONEY TRANSFERRED BY TELEGRAPH AND CABLE TO ALL THE WORLD

BRANCH OFFICES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT. ALL FOREIGN TELEGRAPH STATIONS ACCEPT MESSAGES TO BE SENT
"Via WESTERN UNION"

RECEIVED AT P 821 Sixth Ave. N. Y.

16 NY 11 CBLE LETTER LONDON MAR 25

CLT UTO MOUS NYK

(TRY ALLISON V ARMOUL

10 W 43 RD ST

REPORT DELIVERY)

WILLINGLY ACCEPT YOUR SETTLEMENT CYRENE CLAIM

RICHARD NORTON

135 AM

ALLISON V. ARMOUR
c/o N. W. BROOKS
10 WEST 43rd STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

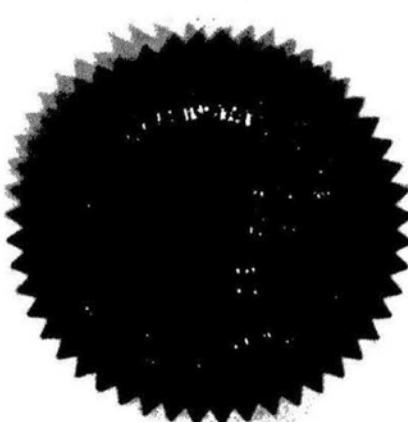
March 24, 1913.

Mr. Allison V. Armour,
10 West 43rd Street,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that you have been given full authority by the Executive Committee of the Archaeological Institute of America to settle with the Italian Government the Cyrene Claim, it being agreed that the Institute will regard as final and binding whatever settlement you may deem it expedient to accept.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Archaeological Institute of America, this the twenty-fourth day of March, 1913.


Mitchell Carroll
General Secretary

New York, March 28th, 1913.

Allison V. Armour, Esq.,

New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Armour:

As representing the friends
of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, I give you
authority to act for them and for me in mak-
ing a settlement with the Italian Government
in the matter of the interference with rights
under concession from Ottoman Government to
conduct excavations at Cyrene, in Tripoli.

Very truly yours,

Gardiner McNamee

April 9, 1913.

Mr. Allison V. Armour,
10 West 43d Street, New York City.

Sir:

The Department has received your letter of the 7th instant advising it that you represent all parties interested in the Cyrene Excavations, including the Archaeological Institute of America and the interests represented by it, and that you have been authorized to arrange a settlement with the Italian Government of all claims arising out of the interruption of the concession granted by the Ottoman Government for archaeological research in Cyrenaica, North Africa, including compensation for the actual losses and expenditures incurred and the sacrifice of the further rights in the scientific explorations under this concession.

E6//L26 - m 198

You add that you are also authorized to act for the members of the staff of the expedition, Messrs. Joseph Clarke Hopper and C. Densmore Curtis.

In

867 m 927

In reply the Department desires to say that the statements made in your letter form a satisfactory response to its letter of March 25 last, and that if the Department requires further information concerning the subject it will communicate with you at a later date.

I am, Sir,

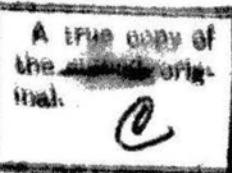
Your obedient servant,

For Mr. Bryan:

HALVEY A. ADDEE

Second Assistant Secretary of State.

▽ 7 r/o S/P
W



10 WEST 43RD STREET
NEW YORK

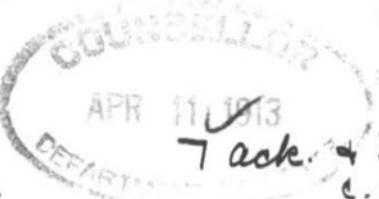
File

(10) April 1913

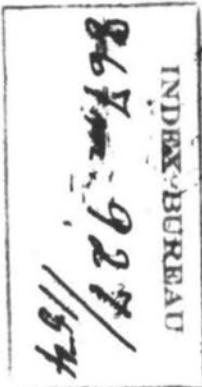
To the Honorable



Secretary of State
Washington.



7 ack & file
c.p.a.
J.



Mr. Secretary:

In the event of a settlement being made by the ^{JUN 1913} ~~the~~ ^{FILE} Government in the case of the Cypress claim, I beg that any funds derived from such settlement be sent to Mr. Willard V. King, Treasurer of the Archaeological Institute of America 60 Broadway, New York, who will give a satisfactory receipt for same. I am, Sir,

Yours very faithfully
Allison S. Armanus

WESTERN
UNIONCable MessageWESTERN
UNION

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

INCORPORATED

ROBERT C. CLOWRY, President and General Manager.

THE LARGEST TELEGRAPH AND CABLE SYSTEM IN EXISTENCE. CABLE SERVICE TO ALL THE WORLD.

8000 OFFICES AND 25,000 ADDITIONAL TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN NORTH AMERICA.

DIRECT AMERICAN CABLES NEW YORK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

CONNECTS also with ANGLO-AMERICAN and DIRECT U. S. ATLANTIC CABLES.

DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH GERMANY AND FRANCE, CUBA, WEST INDIES, MEXICO and CENTRAL and SOUTH AMERICA.
WITH PACIFIC CABLES TO ALASKA, HONOLULU, AUSTRALIA, GUAM, THE PHILIPPINES, JAPAN, ETC.Branch Offices in Principal Cities of Great Britain and the European Continent. All Foreign Telegraph Stations accept Messages to be sent
"Via WESTERN UNION."

NUMBER 6900KG 6700K	SENT BY	REC'D BY	NO. OF WORDS	RECORDED	FROM
			13	MAY 20 1913 DEPT OF STATE	LONDON 1913 MAY 14 PM 6 36 W.M.P.

RECEIVED at

190

LOO CHANDLER ANDERSON

(1618 twenty first St NW)

SE0STATE WASHINGTON

HAS INDEMNITY BEEN PAID

ARMOUR CARE BORTHWICK LONDON

520PM MAY 14 1913.



Referred to State
Dept by Addressee

867 m. 927
INDEX
JUL 7 1913
FILED

JUL 7 1913
FILED

TELEGRAM SENT.

Department of State,



May 19, 1913.

ALLISON V. ARMOUR

CARE BORTHWICK

LONDON.

A handwritten signature in cursive ink, appearing to read "J. P. Bryan".

Your cable May 14. Indemnity has not been paid.

Bryan

867 m. 927/155-

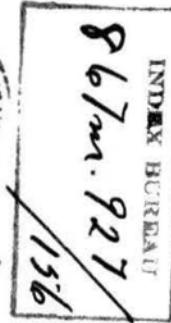
Cyrene Concessions

Enciphered by

Sent by operator

Index Bu. - No. 50.

*Please record
and send to Accts
with check*



JUL 9 1913
FILED

This check, No. 1523, drawn on July 3, 1913, by the Cashier of the American National Bank of Washington to the order of "H. E. Marquis Cusani, Royal Italian Ambassador" for \$25,000, was this day handed to the Secretary of State by the Italian Ambassador in full satisfaction and liquidation of the claims of the Archaeological Institute of America and of the interests represented by it in relation to the concession for archaeological research in the Cyrenaica, North Africa, as mentioned in the Department's pro-memoria of December 19, 1912, handed to the Charge d'Affaires of Italy on December 20 last.

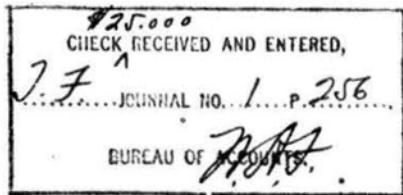
Receipt in duplicate was handed by the Secretary of State to the Italian Ambassador on July 3, 1913.

S. J. Smith

Department of State,

July 3, 1913.

*Check to Secretary of State
for amount of \$25,000
the collection of which
is trust fund
FILE, BUR. OF ACCTS.*



51



Received this day from the Italian Government a draft of Twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.) dated in full satisfaction and liquidation of the claims of the Archaeological Institute of America and of the interests represented by it in relation to the concession for archaeological research in the Cyrenaica, North Africa, as mentioned in the Department's pro-memoria of December 19, 1912, handed to the Chargé d'Affaires of Italy on December 20th last.

[Seal of the Dept.]

W. J. BRYAN
Secretary of State of the
United States of America

Department of State,

July 3, 1913.

July 7, 1913.

251/C 56. m / 28

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith check No. 1523, drawn by the American National Bank of this City, dated July 3, 1913, for TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS, (\$25,000), endorsed payable to your order.

Please place this check in course of collection and have the avails thereof deposited in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of the following-named trust fund, Department of State:

**CLAIM OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA AGAINST
ITALY.**

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For the Secretary of State:

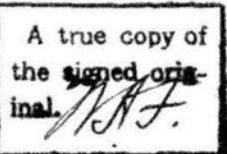
J. B. MOORE

Inclosure: Check for \$25,000

Counselor.

867m.927/156

WAF. *[initials]* T



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

MEMORANDUM



867 m.927

July 11, 1913.

Dear Mr. McNeir:-

You will see from the attached papers that Mr. Allison Armour, who was given authority by the interested parties to make a settlement, has directed in a letter of April 10, 1913, that the indemnity received from the Italian Government be paid to Mr. Willard V. King, Treasurer of the Archaeological Institute of America.

It would seem, however, that neither Mr. Armour nor Mr. King have furnished the Department with an authorization to receive and receipt for the indemnity. It was accordingly suggested that a letter be addressed to Mr. Armour requesting such authorization from the interested parties.

EHH/DAD.

To Allison July 15 1913
Armour J. A.
FILE, BUR. OF ACCTS.

RHH
FJ

JUL 17 1913
FILED

Bureau of Accounts
DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

MEMORANDUM

July 8, 1913.

Dear Mr. VanDyne:

The Italian Government has deposited with the Secretary of State a check for \$25,000., in payment of the claim of the Archaeological Institute of America, which check has been placed in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of the "trust fund" and subject to the disposal of the Secretary of State.

Will you please give us a memorandum or report as to what distribution, if any, is to be made of this money.

Ames

July 15, 1913.

Allisen V. Armeur, Esquire,
10 West 43rd Street,
New York City.

S i r:

Referring to previous correspondence, you are informed that the Department has received from the Italian Government a check for \$25,000 in settlement of the claim of the Archaeological Institute of America and the interests under its protection, in connection with the Cyrene Excavations.

The correspondence indicates that various societies and individuals may be interested in the proceeds of the check received.

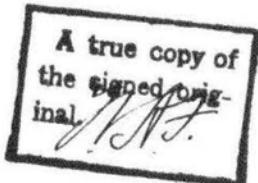
It is, therefore, suggested that some one in authority be designated by proper written instruments to receive from and receipt to the Department for the amount, and make the distribution among the claimants of the amount due each.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

867 m. 927

HC *mwm* *JW* *EHR*



For the Secretary of State:

J. B. MOORE

Counselor.

2511786m728

467 (m) 927
August 23, 1913.

My dear Mr. Flood:

I send you herewith, as requested by you over the telephone, a memorandum regarding the payment by Italy of \$25,000.00 on account of the relinquishment of a concession which the Archaeological Institute of America held from the Turkish Government to make excavations at Cyrene, North Africa.

I am, my dear Mr. Flood,

Yours very truly,

Manton M. Hyatt
Private Secretary.

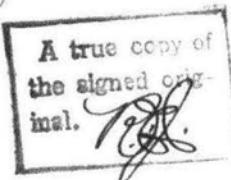
The Honorable

Henry D. Flood,

House of Representatives.

Enclosure:
Memorandum as above.

Z/J R/S



2911/L 206.ue/28

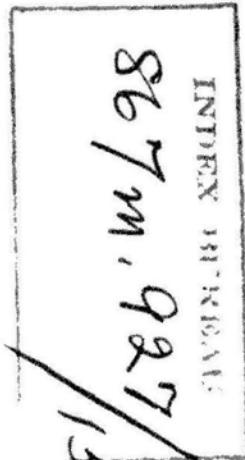
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION. ASIA MINOR.

NOTE:

See: 711.652/17

(Feb. 25, 1913)

For: Mem. from State Dept. (Secretary) re indemnity of
\$25,000 to be paid by Italy in liquidation of claims of
the Archaeological Institute of America.



HENRY B. ANDERSON
CHANDLER P. ANDERSON
ROY C. GASSER
EMERY L. FERRIS

LAW OFFICES OF
ANDERSON & ANDERSON
MILLS BUILDING 15 BROAD STREET
NEW YORK



July 15, 1913.

File

Lester H. Woolsey, Esquire,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Woolsey:

Replying to your letter of yesterday in regard to the Cyrene Matter, no copy of the document signed by the Secretary and the Italian Ambassador on the 26th of February in relation to this matter was communicated either to the Archaeological Society or to Mr. Armour so far as I recollect, and I think that you may be sure that this is so unless the records of the Department show the contrary. I think, however, that Mr. Armour was permitted to read a copy of that document upon one of his recent visits to the Department.

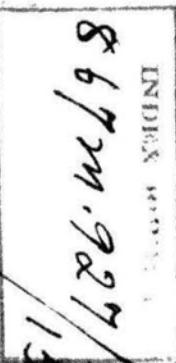
In answer to your other inquiry, I can state positively that neither Mr. Knox nor myself were aware of any understanding with the Italian Ambassador that this document and all copies of it were to be destroyed after its terms had been complied with. If Mr. Moore wants my opinion on the subject, you may tell him that inasmuch as the document is an official record of the Department, I do not think that it should be destroyed.

Very sincerely yours,

Chandler P. Anderson

HKT

JUL 16 1913
FILED



TELEGRAMS, TELEGRAPHIC LONDON.
TELEPHONE, REGENT TWO THOUSAND.

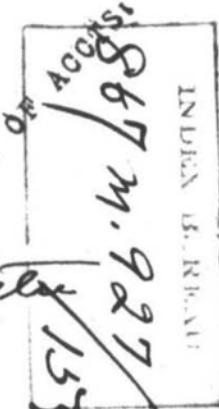


LADIES' ENTRANCE
16, BERKELEY STREET.



F 9 Lo
12. August 1913
THE BATH CLUB,
34, DOVER STREET, W.

Nath. F.



AUG 23 1913
FILED

Sir:
I recently received your letter dated 15th Aug in regard to settlement of Claim of Archaeological Institute in connection with Cyprus Excavations and notice, with pleasure that check from State in Government had been received. I am returning to New York before September 1st and shall arrange for distribution.

I am Sir.

To -
Hon. B. Moore
Counselor
Department of State.

Yours very faithfully
Alanson S. Abram

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

File

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

O.K. this
is directed this
way

JAN 24 1914

As Tealy has paid
Ammon's Society
£20,000 indemnity we
can hardly demand
the punishment of the
murderers but we can hint
that we expect justice - Q



To Rome Embassy, Jan. 24th.

SUBJECT: Murder of Professor De Cou.

Answered by &
Jan 27, FILE

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

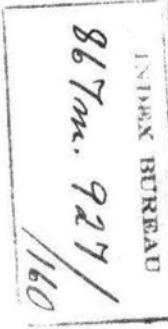
SIR:

Referring to the Department's No. 24 of August 12, 1911 (File No. 867 m. 927/87), I have to state that I had an informal conversation with Baron Menzinger, President of the Court of Appeal for LIBIA, in regard to the jurisdiction of Italian Courts in criminal cases which had not been completed during the Turkish dominion in this district. The case in mind was that of the murder of a Jew by an Arab called Barumi. His trial was being conducted during the time when the Italian Occupation took place and during the bombardment he, with all other prisoners was allowed to escape. A short time ago Barumi was arrested and is awaiting trial before the Italian Courts.

I mentioned the DeCou case to the President and he at once stated that if the facts were placed before the Procuratore del Re, action would be taken and if the Arabs implicated could be found, they would be arrested and brought to trial.

Cyrene is in the possession of the Italian Army and has been for some months, but the situation in Cirenaica is not yet settled; it appears, however, to be in a more hopeful

FILE
C.E.S.



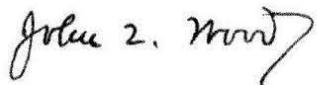
JAN 30 1914
FILED

hopeful condition now than at any time since the beginning of the Italian Occupation. A Mission was sent to interview the Senussi Sheik with the object of arranging a cessation of hostilities two months ago and since its return there has been no military activity on the part of the Italians nor have the Arabs made any concentrated attacks. There was a slight attack of a commissary caravan by a band of irresponsible Arab plunderers only last week but not much importance has been given this action.

I would respectfully suggest that if the Embassy has not been instructed recently in regard to this case that it would be advisable to have our Ambassador take the matter up with the Minister of Foreign Affairs in conjunction with the Minister of Colonies, who seems to be all-important in matters affecting LIBIA, with the view of having the proper authorities take steps to arrest and bring to a speedy trial the murderers of the late Professor DeCou.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,



American Consul.

No.

January 27, 1914.

Arthur E. Saunders, Esquire,
American Vice Consul,
Tripoli, Libya.

Sir:

The Department acknowledges the receipt of your despatch No. 140, under date of December 31st last, relative to the murder of Professor De Cou, and encloses for your information a copy of an instruction to the American Ambassador at Rome upon the matter.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For the Secretary of State:

WILBUR J. CARR.

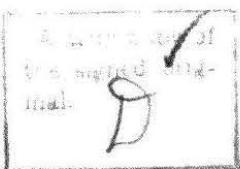
867 m. 927/160

Enclosure:

To Rome Embassy,
Jan. 24, 1914.

867 m. 927/160

3 S/Pl
S



No. 28.

January 24, 1914.

The Honorable

Thomas Nelson Page,

American Ambassador,

Rome.

Sir:

Referring to the murder of Professor De Cou, a full report of which will be found in the archives of the Embassy, there is enclosed herewith a copy of a despatch recently received from the American Consulate at Tripoli.

In this despatch the Consul states:

"I mentioned the De Cou case to the President and he at once stated that if the facts were placed before the Procuratore del Re, action would be taken and if the Arabs implicated could be found, they would be arrested and brought to trial."

It would appear to be, therefore, a favorable moment to bring the matter to the attention of the Italian Government; and you are instructed, when suitable occasion arises, to say unofficially to the Minister of Foreign Affairs that this Government would feel greatly gratified, now that order has been restored in Cirenaica under Italian rule, if the murderer-

ers

0911/02/24
3626, 924

ers of Professor De Gon could be found and brought to trial.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For the Secretary of State:

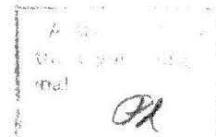
J. B. MOORE

Enclosure:

From Tripoli Consulate.
December 31, 1915.

867 m.927/160

3 S/P1 L
S



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

MEMORANDUM

February 21, 1914.

Dear Mr. Tracy:

At Governor Folk's request, Allison V. Armour, 10 West 43rd Street, New York City, the representative of the American Archaeological Institute, talked with me this morning regarding the claim of that Institute against Italy for \$25,000.

When Mr. Armour called attention to this case, I remembered that it incidentally came to my attention some time last summer. I understand that a memorandum dated February 25, 1913, which was signed by former Secretary Knox and the Italian Ambassador, shows that the Department delayed the signing of the convention between the United States and Italy of that date until an agreement could be reached with the Italian Government for the payment of the claim of \$25,000 of the American Archaeological Institute against Italy. From this memorandum it also appears that an understanding was reached that the payment of this claim was to be contemporaneous with the exchange of ratifications of the convention.

It is my impression that the ratifications of the convention have been exchanged and that the claim has been paid by the Italian Government and the money deposited by the Department in the Treasury in accordance with the Act of February 27, 1896.

I understand that sometime ago Mr. Van Dyne gave Mr. Armour certain directions as to the showing which should be made by the latter as to his right to receive the money. Mr. Armour left the attached papers at the Department. As this matter appears to be within your jurisdiction, will you see whether Mr. Armour has made a proper showing so that a certificate should be issued by the Secretary in his favor, or whether this certificate

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

MEMORANDUM

-2-

should be issued directly in favor of the claimants, and will you take such steps as may be necessary and proper to adjust the matter so that the money may be paid over to the persons entitled to receive it?

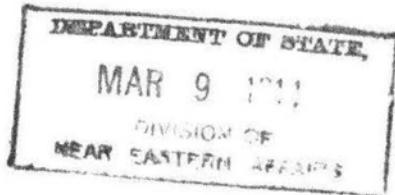
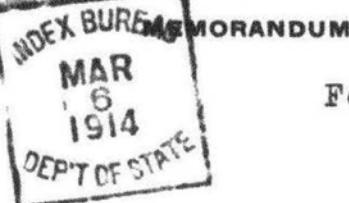
FKN/JK.

A handwritten signature consisting of stylized initials, possibly 'JK' or 'FKN', written in black ink.

3

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR



February 26, 1914.

The Secretary:

The question here presented for your consideration and decision is the issuance of your certificate upon the Secretary of the Treasury for the payment to the interested parties of the sum of \$25,000, received by the Department from the Italian Ambassador and, in accordance with law, deposited in the Treasury July 7, 1913, in full satisfaction and liquidation of the claims of the Archaeological Institute of America and of the interests represented by it in relation to the concession for archaeological research in Cyrenaica, North Africa.

The Archaeological Institute of America is an American organization, incorporated, with branches at various centers throughout the United States, composed of men and women interested in the advancement of the science of archaeology. Under the supervision of this Institute excavations and other forms of archaeological research have at times been conducted at sundry sites in various parts of the world.

Some years ago the Institute decided to undertake researches, if the necessary permission could be obtained, at Cyrene, North Africa, - a place which has been known for many generations as one of probable great interest to

967m. 927
1/16
MAP FILE
MAR 27 1914

archaeologists. With this object in view, representatives of the Institute were sent to Constantinople to comply with the prescribed formalities of obtaining the necessary permit of the Ottoman Government. During the Turco-Italian War this territory was occupied by Italy, and upon the conclusion of peace Italy remained in charge thereof. In its operations in Cyrene, the expedition of the Institute encountered considerable opposition from local Italian officials and others, and as a result of this opposition and the conditions created thereby, Mr. Henry F. DeCou, who headed the American expedition, was murdered by Arabs, and these events together with the outbreak of war between Italy and Turkey and the unsettled conditions following the conclusion of peace rendered it unsafe and inadvisable for the expedition to continue its excavations, and the work was abandoned.

This Government apparently made no formal demand upon the Italian Government for an indemnity in behalf of the Institute or any members of the expedition. Such negotiations as were had in this regard appear principally to have occurred between the Italian Ambassador at Washington and Mr. Allison V. Armour, and the amount of indemnity was agreed upon by the Ambassador and Mr. Armour, as the representative of the claimants (see memo. of the Counselor of March 18, 1913).

In a pro memoria dated December 12, 1912, the Italian Ambassador stated that the government of "His Majesty the King, animated by all the good will that the circumstances allow, is disposed to examine the rights that the laws confer

to the American Archaeological Mission and to take consequently into consideration the eventual payment of an indemnity. Therefore, as soon as the conditions of public safety will allow access to Cyrene, it will be necessary to effect an investigation regarding the conditions of the excavations and the value of the objects which might eventually be exported and consequently to establish by means of a discussion in the presence of the parties concerned the amount of indemnity due."

There appears to be no statement of the individual losses suffered by the members of the expedition, and the amount received from the Italian Government by way of indemnity appears, in accordance with the Secretary's receipt upon payment of said indemnity by the Italian Government, to have been "in full satisfaction and liquidation of the claims of the Archaeological Institute of America and of the interests represented by it in relation to the concession for archaeological researches in The Cyrenaica, North Africa," and the amount of the indemnity, namely, \$25,000 was, by direction of the Department, deposited in the Treasury to the credit of the "Department of State: Claim of the Archaeological Institute of America Against Italy."

Touching the matter of the persons entitled to receive said indemnity, it appears that on March 25, 1913, the Department addressed a letter to Mr. Allison V. Armour, who had taken an active part in the researches being conducted by the Institute and who claimed to be representing all the parties in interest, advising him that it is desirable that the Department should have appropriate documents showing that he had been

authorized by the Archaeological Institute and the interests represented by it in relation to this concession to represent them in the matter of settling their claims on the basis of \$25,000. In reply to said letter, Mr. Armour submitted certain documents purporting to authorize him to act in this behalf for the Institute and for Messrs. Joseph Clark Hoppin, C. Densmore Curtis, Richard Norton, and Gardiner M. Lane, for himself and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and stated that there were no other interested parties. The Department in replying to Mr. Armour said that the statements made in his letter form a satisfactory response to its letter of March 25th last.

In a letter of date July 15, 1913, to Allison V. Armour, the Department suggested that some one in authority be designated by proper written instruments to receive from and receipt to the Department for the amount received from the Italian Government and make the distribution among the claimants of the amounts due each.

In compliance with said suggestion, Mr. Armour now presents to the Department powers of attorney from the following named parties:

The Archaeological Institute of America
C. Densmore Curtis
Gardiner M. Lane, for himself and as President
of the Museum of Fine Arts of Boston.
Richard Norton
Joseph Clark Hoppin.

Since it appears that this indemnity was paid "in full satisfaction and liquidation of the claims of the Archaeological Institute of America and of the interests represented

by it in relation to the concession for archaeological research in The Cyrenaica, North Africa," and that the amount thereof has been deposited in the Treasury to the credit of the claim of the Archaeological Institute of America against Italy, it would seem that the powers of attorney submitted by Mr. Armour on behalf of C. Densmore Curtis, Gardiner M. Lane, Richard Norton, and Joseph Clark Hoppin, are unnecessary, the power from the Archaeological Institute of America appearing to be the only one requiring consideration in connection with the issuance of the Secretary's certificate. This power of attorney from the Institute to Mr. Armour seems to be in due form and sufficient to authorize the issuance to Mr. Armour as attorney in fact for the Archaeological Institute of America of the Secretary's certificate upon the United States Treasury in the sum of \$25,000 in conformity with the Act of February 27, 1896 (29 Stats. L., p. 32), which defines the powers and duties of the Secretary of State in the matter of distributing funds received from foreign governments and other sources in behalf of citizens of the United States.

SET-BFT.

J.W.
J.W. Holt
Attala

J.W. Holt
Attala

3- P.



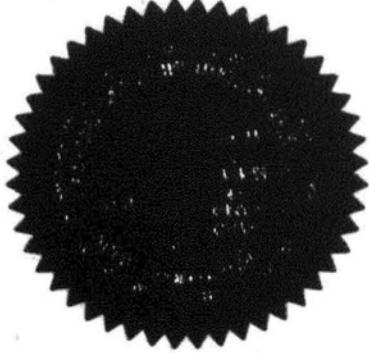
8675
11/27/92
INDEX BUREAU

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS that the ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA, a corporation existing under the Laws of the United States, has constituted and does hereby constitute, nominate and appoint ALLISON V. ARMOUR of the City of New York, State of New York as it's true and lawful attorney for it, and in its name place and stead to receive and receipt for such sums as the ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA may be entitled to from the United States through the Secretary of State in the matter of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), held in the Treasury of the United States, being the money paid to the said Secretary of State by the Italian Government to be paid to the ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA and other parties in settlement of the matter known as the Cyrene Claim, the said ALLISON V. ARMOUR being authorized and empowered to execute any receipt, or receipts, that may be necessary in the premises, in the name of the ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA and which may be required by the Secretary of State, whether the same be under seal or otherwise, hereby ratifying and confirming all that the said attorney may do in the premises.

WITNESS the corporate seal of the ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA at the City of Washington, District of Columbia and the signature of the interim president and secretary this 6th day of October 1913.

F. W. Shipley
Interim President.

Mitchell Carroll
General Secretary.



POWER OF ATTORNEY.

**THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA**

to

ALLISON V. ARMOUR.

**JOHN B. LARNER,
ATTORNEY & COUNSELLOR AT LAW
501-3 WASHINGTON LOAN & TRUST BUILDING,
WASHINGTON, D. C.**

Know all Men by these Presents,

That I, C. DENSMORE CURTIS, a citizen of the United States, now residing at Rome, Italy, and heretofore a member of the Expedition to Cyrene, North Africa, conducted under the auspices of the Archaeological Institute of America,

have made, constituted and appointed, and by these presents do make, constitute and appoint ALLISON V. ARMOUR,

my true and lawful attorney for me and in my name, place and stead to agree with the State Department of the United States, or any other department having the matter in charge, upon the amount, if any, that shall be apportioned and assigned to me as indemnity, and for my share of the sum of \$25,000., which was paid to the Government of the United States of America by the Italian Government to be paid to the Archaeological Institute of America and other parties in settlement of the matter known as the Cyrene Claim; and to execute and deliver any receipt or receipts that may be necessary in the premises in my name, and which may be required by the officers of the United States Government, whether the same be under seal or otherwise; and also to execute and deliver for me any and all releases that he may deem proper of any claim of mine against the Government of the United States for the distribution of said sum, or against the Italian Government for my losses in connection with the matter out of which has grown the said Cyrene Claim,

giving and granting unto my said attorney full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever requisite and necessary to be done in and about the

premises as fully to all intents and purposes as I might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution and revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that my said attorney or his substitute shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

In Witness whereof, I — have hereunto set my hand and seal the
thirty-first day of October — in the year nineteen hundred and thir-
teen.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of

Charles L Bobgesz
William H. Bush

C. Denison Curtis.

State of
County of

} $\delta\delta,$

Be it known, That on the day
of one thousand nine hundred
and before me,
a Notary public in and for the State of
duly commissioned and sworn, dwelling in the

personally came and appeared

to me known and known to me to be the same person described
in and who executed the above Power of Attorney, and
acknowledged the above Power of Attorney to be
act and deed and that he executed the same.

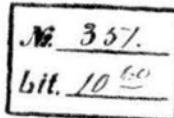
In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my seal of office, the day and year last above written.

KINGDOM OF ITALY)
CITY OF FLORENCE) ss,) : SS.: American Consulate

I, William H. Burt —, a Free Consul of the United States of America in and for the City of Florence, Italy, do hereby certify that C. DENSMORE CURTIS, party to a certain Power of Attorney bearing date on the 31st day of October, 1913, and hereto annexed, personally appeared before me at the Consulate of the United States of America at the City of Florence, Italy, and the said C. Densmore Curtis being personally well-known to me to be the person who executed the said Power of Attorney and acknowledged the same to be his act and deed.

GIVEN under my hand and the seal of said Consulate this 31st day of October, 1913.

William H. Burt
Free Consul of the United States of AMERICA
at Florence, Italy. (In Charge)



C. DENSMORE CURTIS

Co

ALLISON V. ARMOUR.

Power of Attorney.

Dated, 1913.

Know all Men by these Presents,

That I, RICHARD NORTON, a citizen of the United States, now residing at London, England, and heretofore a member of the Expedition to Cyrene, North Africa, conducted under the auspices of the Archaeological Institute of America,

have made, constituted and appointed, and by these presents do make, constitute and appoint ALLISON V. ARMOUR,

my true and lawful attorney for me and in my name, place and stead to agree with the State Department of the United States, or any other department having the matter in charge, upon the amount, if any, that shall be apportioned and assigned to me as indemnity, and for my share of the sum of \$25,000., which was paid to the Government of the United States of America by the Italian Government to be paid to the Archaeological Institute of America and other parties in settlement of the matter known as the Cyrene Claim; and to execute and deliver any receipt or receipts that may be necessary in the premises in my name, and which may be required by the officers of the United States Government, whether the same be under seal or otherwise; and also to execute and deliver for me any and all releases that he may deem proper of any claim of mine against the Government of the United States for the distribution of said sum, or against the Italian Government for my losses in connection with the matter out of which has grown the said Cyrene Claim,

giving and granting unto my said attorney full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever requisite and necessary to be done in and about the

premises as fully to all intents and purposes as I might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution and revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that my said attorney or his substitute shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

In Witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal the eighth day of November in the year nineteen hundred and thirteen.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of

Jack B Parker
Frank Maxon

Richard Norton.

United States Consulate General,
State of PARIS, Republic of FRANCE, } ss
County of

Be it known, That on the eighth day
of November one thousand nine hundred
and thirteen before me, Frank Maxon
~~of Consul General~~ a ~~Notary~~ public in and for the ~~State of~~ City of Paris
duly commissioned and sworn, dwelling in the
City of Paris, Republic of France
personally came and appeared

Richard Norton
to me known and known to me to be the same person described
in and who executed the above Power of Attorney, and
acknowledged the above Power of Attorney to be
act and deed and that he executed the same.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed
my name and affixed my seal of office, the day and year
last above written.

Frank Maxon

Consul-General of the United States of America
at PARIS, Republic of France.



)
; SS.:
)

I, , a Consul of the
United States of America in and for the City of , ,
do hereby certify that RICHARD NORTON, party to a certain Power of
Attorney bearing date on the day of , 1913, and hereto
annexed, personally appeared before me at the Consulate of the United
States of America at the City of , , and the said
Richard Norton being personally well-known to me to be the person who
executed the said Power of Attorney and acknowledged the same to be
his act and deed.

GIVEN under my hand and the seal of said Consulate this
day of , 1913.

RICHARD NORTON

Co

ALLISON V. ARMOUR.

Power of Attorney.

Dated, _____ 1913.

Know all Men by these Presents,

That I, Gardiner M. Lane, as President of the Museum of Fine Arts of Boston and Treasurer of Boston Society of the Archaeological Institute of America have made, constituted and appointed, and by these presents do make, constitute and appoint **Allison V. Armour**

my true and lawful attorney for me and in my name, place and stead to receive and receipt for such moneys as the above institutions, or I myself, may be interested in in connection with the indemnity paid by the Italian Government for having kept an expedition, working under the auspices of the Archaeological Institute of America and certain subscribers, friends of the Museum of Fine Arts of Boston, from exercising rights in Tripoli, Africa, owing to the war in Tripoli, such rights having been granted by the Ottoman Government. The Italian Government having agreed to pay and paid to the Department of State the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars, in compensation for losses and expenditures of such expedition.

giving and granting unto my said attorney full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever requisite and necessary to be done in and about the

premises as fully to all intents and purposes as I might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution and revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that my said attorney or his substitute shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

In Witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal the Sixth day of October in the year nineteen hundred and thirteen.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of

Paul Garland

Gardiner M. Lane
President of the Museum
of Fine Arts.

State of Massachusetts, County of Suffolk

Be it known, That on the sixth day of October, one thousand nine hundred and thirteen before me, James Liddell a Notary public in and for the State of Massachusetts, duly commissioned and sworn, dwelling in the County of Suffolk personally came and appeared

Gardiner M. Lane
to me personally known and known to me to be the same person described in and who executed the above Power of Attorney, and he acknowledged the above Power of Attorney to be his free act and deed.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my seal of office, the day and year last above written.

James Liddell
Notary Public

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.

Boston, Oct. 6 1913.

I hereby Certify, That at the date of the attestation hereto annexed,

James Liddell was

A NOTARY PUBLIC for the said Commonwealth duly commissioned and constituted; that to his acts and attestations, as such, full faith and credit are and ought to be given in and out of court; that as such Notary Public, he is by law authorized to administer oaths and take acknowledgments of deeds and other instruments throughout the Commonwealth; and that I verily believe his signature to the annexed attestation to be genuine.

In Testimony of which, I have hereunto affixed the
GREAT SEAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH
the date above written.

Frank J. Boualne

Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Gardiner M Lane

90

Atkinson V. Armour

Power of Attorney.

Dated, 6. October 1913

Know all Men by these Presents,

That I, JOSEPH CLARK HOPPIN, a citizen of the United States, now residing at Washington, D. C., and heretofore a member of the Expedition to Cyrene, North Africa, conducted under the auspices of the Archaeological Institute of America,

have made, constituted and appointed, and by these presents do make, constitute and appoint ALLISON V. ARMOUR,

my true and lawful attorney for me and in my name, place and stead to agree with the State Department of the United States, or any other department having the matter in charge, upon the amount, if any, that shall be apportioned and assigned to me as indemnity, and for my share of the sum of \$25,000., which was paid to the Government of the United States of America by the Italian Government to be paid to the Archaeological Institute of America and other parties in settlement of the matter known as the Cyrene Claim; and to execute and deliver any receipt or receipts that may be necessary in the premises in my name, and which may be required by the officers of the United States Government, whether the same be under seal or otherwise; and also to execute and deliver for me any and all releases that he may deem proper of any claim of mine against the Government of the United States for the distribution of said sum, or against the Italian Government for my losses in connection with the matter out of which has grown the said Cyrene Claim,

giving and granting unto my said attorney full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever requisite and necessary to be done in and about the

premises as fully to all intents and purposes as I might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution and revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that my said attorney or his substitute shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

In Witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal the
8th day of November in the year nineteen hundred and thirteen.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of

Herbert D. Garrison

DEPUTY CONSUL-GENERAL OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA AT LONDON, ENGLAND.

Joyce Clark Stoppin



State of

County of

80.

Be it known, That on the day
of one thousand nine hundred
and before me,
a Notary public in and for the State of
duly commissioned and sworn, dwelling in the

personally came and appeared

to me known and known to me to be the same person described
in and who executed the above Power of Attorney, and
acknowledged the above Power of Attorney to be
act and deed and that he executed the same.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my seal of office, the day and year last above written.

KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND,
CITY OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

} ss.

)
; SS.:

JHD I, *Herbert D Jameson* — , a Deputy Consul ^{General} of
the United States of America in and for the City of London, England,
do hereby certify that JOSEPH CLARK HOPPIN, party to a certain Power
of Attorney bearing date on the 8th day of November, 1913, and
hereto annexed, personally appeared before me at the Consulate of
the United States of America at the City of London, England,
and the said Joseph Clark Hoppin being personally well-known to me
to be the person who executed the said Power of Attorney and ac-
knowledged the same to be his act and deed.

JHD GIVEN under my hand and the seal of said Consulate ^{General}, this
8th day of November, 1913.



6692.

Herbert D Jameson
DEPUTY CONSUL-GENERAL OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA AT LONDON, ENGLAND.

JOSEPH CLARK HOPPIN

Co

ALLISON V. ARMOUR.

Power of Attorney.

Dated,

1913.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

MEMORANDUM

February 26, 19

Cub. vac + w/du
Rec'd Mar 3/14

Bureau of Accounts:

In conformity with the Secretary's order of this date, please make out a certificate to the Secretary of the Treasury, for the signature of the Secretary of State, in favor of Allison V. Armour as attorney in fact for the Archaeological Institute of America in the sum of \$25,000, together with a receipt for Mr. Armour's signature and transmitting letter to Mr. Armour.

SET-BFT.

ZKH JW

MAR 6 1914
FILED



March 3, 1914.

Allison V. Armour, Esquire,

10 West 43rd Street,

New York City.

Sir:

In conformity with power of attorney filed by you I enclose herewith a Certificate on the Secretary of the Treasury for \$25,000, in your favor as Attorney in Fact for the Archaeological Institute of America, which amount the Department received in July last from the Italian Government in settlement of the claim of said Institute against the Italian Government in connection with the Cyrene excavations.

1911/286-m6798

Send the Certificate to the Secretary of the Treasury for payment and return the voucher duly executed to this Department.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For the Secretary of State:

Enclosure as above.

867m, 927/156 WAF/H
mey

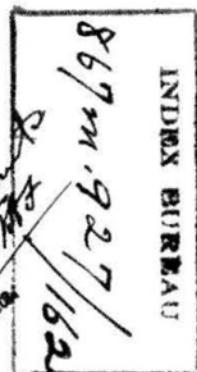
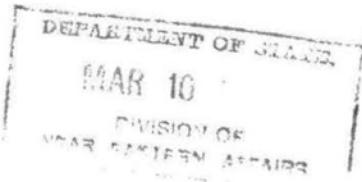
J. B. Moore

Counselor.

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal.

F. H.

10 WEST 43RD STREET
NEW YORK



To the Honorable



Secretary of State

Washington, D.C.

Received
Recd
Recd
File Bur. Accts

Mr. Secretary

I hereby return to receipt

for Certificate No 2475, on the Receipt
of the Treasury, for Twenty-five Thousand
Dollars in full settlement and payment
of claim of the Archaeological Institute of
America against the Government of Italy
in the matter of the so called Cyrus Claim

With an appreciation of the efforts
of the State Department in this matter
and expressing the gratitude of the
interested parties, I am, Sir

Your very obedient servant
Albert V. Armano

MAR 11 1914
FILED

Division of
Western European Affairs

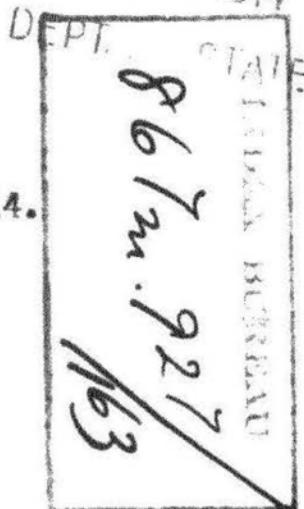
Nov. 6, 1914.

Mr. Smith:

Mr. Edelman tells me that he had a talk with Dr. Montgomery's brother in Phila. and reassured him as to conditions in Palestine.

Williams

U.S. H. W.
NOV 7 1914



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 3, 1914.



An enclosed letter from Mr. Edgar F. Smith
of the University of Pennsylvania in regard to
Dr. James Alan Montgomery explains itself. Will
you not be good enough to do everything in your
power to aid Dr. Montgomery and his family?

NOV 7 1914

Sincerely yours,

J. P. Tammey
Secretary to the President.

Hon. W. J. Bryan,
Secretary of State.

Enclosure.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
PHILADELPHIA



OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

*Arrd
McAfee*

November second
1914

Sir:

Dr. James Alan Montgomery, a member of the Faculty of the University of Pennsylvania, was appointed Director of the Jerusalem branch of the American Institute of Archaeology, of which Mr. Mitchell Carroll, Washington, D.C., is Secretary. Dr. Montgomery was given a year's leave of absence by the University in order to take charge of the Directorship in Jerusalem. His wife and three children accompanied him.

We have been informed that the Institute in Jerusalem has been closed and that Dr. Montgomery is desirous of returning to the United States. We have not been able to reach him, as we understand the cable has been cut. My object in writing is to know whether it is not possible to give to Dr. Montgomery directions by which to travel. His friends here in the City are making every effort, through the Standard Oil Company, to place money in his hands.

Dr. Montgomery is a most important and active member of our teaching body. His research work has met with the highest praise from scholars all over the world. The fear has been expressed that he is probably in danger; hence, I have addressed this letter to you. I may have erred in taking this liberty, but the thought with me was that our own Government would know best what course should be pursued to have the return of Dr. Montgomery and his little family made as safe as possible.

With respect, I am

To Your obedient servant,
HON. WOODROW WILSON,
President of the United States,
Washington, D. C. *Edgar F. Smith,*
Provost

November 6, 1914.

Mr. Edgar F. Smith,
Provost, University of Pennsylvania,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Sir:

The Department has received, by reference from the President, your letter of November 2, 1914, in which you enquire whether Dr. James Alan Montgomery, a member of the Faculty of the University of Pennsylvania and Director of the Jerusalem branch of the American Institute of Archaeology, will have any difficulty in leaving Palestine for the United States.

In reply you are informed that Dr. Montgomery will have no difficulty in leaving Palestine as the Italian steamers are running between there and Genoa. Cable communication is at present open between the United States and Constantinople and as far as the Department is advised communication between that City and Jerusalem is still possible.

I am, Sir,

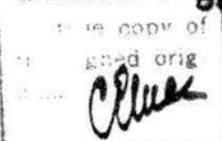
Your obedient servant,

ROBERT LANSING

Acting Secretary of State.

867m.927/165 J.W.

m.s.



November 6, 1914.

My dear Mr. Tumulty:

I have received your letter of November 2, 1914, enclosing one addressed to the President by Mr. Edgar F. Smith, Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, relative to the case of Dr. James Alan Montgomery, a member of the Faculty of that University, who is Director of the Jerusalem branch of the American Institute of Archaeology and who now desires to return to the United States.

The Department has taken pleasure in assuring Mr. Smith that Dr. Montgomery will have no difficulty in leaving Palestine for the United States.

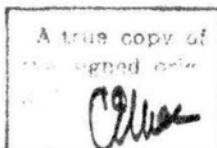
I am, my dear Mr. Tumulty,

Very sincerely yours,

ROBERT LANSING

Joseph P. Tumulty, Esquire,
Secretary to the President,
The White House.

867m.927/165 J.W.
W.S.





AMERICAN CONSULATE,

Bagdad, Mesopotamia, February 3, 1920.

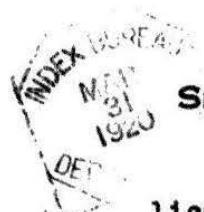
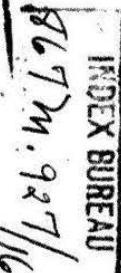
SUBJECT: Memorandum regarding Archaeological Research
in Iraq.

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

WASHINGTON.

Attn: Smithsonian
Institution (by 12A)
APR 10 1920
FILE - C. E. S. APR 11
1920
.06 AFFAIRS



SIR:

I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy, in duplicate, of a memorandum regarding Archaeological Research in Iraq, which has recently been published by the Director of Education.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Oscar S. Heizer
American Consul.

76 M 927/4
APR 13 1920

Enclosure:-

Memo regarding Archaeological Research in Iraq.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN IRAQ.

INTRODUCTORY.

Since many officers both Civil and Military are interested in the Antiquities of Iraq and may have opportunities of making valuable observations, the Department of Education in Mesopotamia offers to co-operate with such officers by collecting from them information likely to be useful to archaeologists, and by facilitating the study of Mesopotamian history.

Appended herewith is an attempt to define the aims and methods of scientific archaeology and to indicate some of the directions in which this Department may be able to co-ordinate individual efforts. Every one will agree that excavation should be left to the specialist missions from Europe and that our own function is mainly to preserve and record for the benefit of specialists when they arrive.

The Department of Education is accordingly prepared to collect and, if necessary, communicate to learned societies at home, any photographs, sketches, plans and notes of archaeological interest which officers may care to forward. It hopes also to be able shortly to issue archaeological and historical books on loan and to provide officers with an annotated bibliography of important works.

Communications should be addressed to the Director of Education, Baghdad.

THE AIMS OF ARCHAEOLOGY.

(a) The archaeologist is not one who collects antiquities simply because they are rare, curious, ancient or of aesthetic value.

Archaeology in so far as it is merely antiquarian attempts to provide a setting or back ground for literary historical records by recovering and studying the remains of material civilizations. But in its most important function, archaeology is a powerful second to history and aims at—

- (1) Correcting, or supplementing literary records by archaeological evidence.
- (2) Supplying in the same way complete absence of records by outlining the general trend of previously unrecorded events.
- (3) Recovering and interpreting actual written contemporary records.

(B) Instances may be here quoted illustrating the scope and importance of archaeology.

1. Examples of useful work coming under (1) are the study of known historical sites, the topography of ancient battle fields and lines of communication (ancient roads, bridges, fords, mountain passes, etc.)

Remains of ancient roads are likely to be rare in this country but the main arteries of ancient commerce or war may often be traced with sufficient accuracy by observing the position of 'TELS' and bridges.

It is further likely that archaeological research will determine, for example, the extent and permanence of Assyrian rule in Southern Kurdistan and throw much light upon the origin and cultural affinities of the Medes.

2. Under (2) it may be noted that archaeology in the past has carried back the history of Egypt and Iraq to a date far beyond the earliest event recorded in literary history and in Egypt at least even to a time anterior to the earliest hieroglyphic records. It has also attacked, though it has not yet solved, the problem of the origin of the Egyptian race and culture.

(b) In Crete archaeologists have discovered an unexpected early civilization of the greatest importance especially in the history of art and have cast much light on ethnological questions previously left insoluble by Greek historical records.

(c) In southern Iraq the existence of a previously unsuspected people has been proved, but the pre-history of the races fringing the alluvial delta is an almost untouched field of research.

3. Activities under (3) are of peculiar importance in Iraq owing to the early invention of writing and the accidental preservation thereof vast quantities of written records of historical or sociological importance. The interpretation of these records requires highly trained specialists with whom the layman can co-operate only by learning to recognise ancient inscriptions* discouraging, or refraining from, their private acquisition and by submitting them, if acquired, for examination and interpretation by experts.

(C) For present purposes archaeological remains may be divided into :—

- (1) Monumental or architectural.
- (2) Minor objects.

(1) Visible remains coming under (1) are rare and their safeguard and custody is provided for in Proclamation 13 referred to above. This category may however be taken to include the artificial 'TELS' produced by the disintegration of ancient cities and easily distinguishable from geological features. The excavation of these TELS is a work requiring expert supervision and considerable expense and should not be undertaken without authority. Much, however, may be

* Note.—This recommendation is perhaps not unnecessary. Geological formations have been known to be mistaken for cuneiform inscriptions.

done by taking photographs and measurements or by making sketches. Compass bearings from magnetic north may accompany photographs and drawings but it will usually be sufficient to state roughly the orientation in points of the compass.

The Chief Tels of Southern Iraq are already known to archaeologists but photographs and sketches are always of interest.

In less known districts the precise map reference and local name of artificial Tels should be given.

Other remains of which the exact location should always be notified are rock carvings, rock inscriptions, ancient brick work or masonry. It is always well to state average dimensions of bricks or stones, whether mortar is used, its character (lime or bitumen) whether stone is rough or ashlar (dressed).

(2) In the matter of minor antiquities the primary importance of an object apart from its aesthetic or intrinsic value may depend upon (a) the site on which it was found (b) its exact local relation to other objects found in its neighbourhood.

In the case of antiquities which come into the hands of British Officers or B.O.Rs. it will often be possible to ascertain (a) and the locality should be recorded with the greatest precision possible. In the matter of (b) it will usually be found impossible to obtain evidence except at a formal excavation by experts but in the case of *accidental* excavations made in the conduct of public works an officer should if possible note carefully the surroundings and the comparative depth at which objects are found, and label them accordingly without delay.

(b) Minor objects may have a secondary importance as leading to the discovery of ancient sites not otherwise recognisable. Repeated small finds (e.g. from a river banks after rain) should be watched, the antiquities bought in if possible, and the precise site recorded by description, photograph or sketch and by T.C. map reference.

NUMISMATICS.

D. Some special remarks are here appended on numismatics and inscriptions.

(1) The study of coins is one of the branches of archaeology most attractive to the layman and at the same time one of those least likely to produce sensational historical results. Nevertheless specialists may often obtain from coins information of historical value, and an appeal should be made to B.Os., etc., not to retain coins merely as curiosities when there is no intention of making a serious collection.

(2) It should be remembered that coins are of less market value than is usually supposed. If of great rarity their proper place is in a museum or a good private collection.

Excessive prices are often demanded by native dealers and paid by B.Os. on the ground that coins are made of precious metals and are extremely old "Assyrian" antiquities. The date usually fixed by dealers and by their customers is B.C. 2000 whereas, to speak from memory, there is no coin in existence earlier than the 8th century B.C. and none at all minted in Iraq before about B.C. 500, long after the extinction of the Assyrian empire. It is suggested that in no case should more than about twice the intrinsic value of the metal be offered. P.Os. will commit no injustice in the compulsory acquisition for the public of coins at this valuation but the stringent enforcement of regulations in this matter is deprecated as inexpedient.

(3) The attention of P.Os. is drawn to the educational value of coins as part of the apparatus of the schools in their districts. It may not be difficult to acquire for educational purposes coins illustrating local history in:—

- (a) the Greek period.
- (b) the Parthian (Arsacid) period.
- (c) the period of the second Persian empire (Sassanian).
- (d) the period of the Khalifate.

The coins of these dynasties, coins of the first Persian empire and of the Roman empire (contemporaneous with B & C) are readily distinguishable by the least experienced and afford an admirable object lesson in the progressive degradation of art from Greek to Moslem times.

Coins with a considerable museum value should not of course be used for school purposes.

Examples are figured in Sykes' "History of Persia", "Persia" in "Stories of the Nations" series, etc.

INSCRIPTIONS.

In Iraq the majority of these are on clay tablets and cylinders. Rock inscriptions or other large inscriptions on stone are less likely to be casually discovered. They may be accurately and easily copied in the following way by taking a "Squeeze". Sheets of rough "Grocery" paper are soaked in water and laid over the inscription. By means of clothes or other brush provided with a handle the paper is then beaten into a pulp filling the irregularities of the stone and successive layers of paper added in the same way until a flawless impression is obtained. The mould is allowed to dry before being removed. It may then be rolled up and transported without damage in a metal cylinder.

Department of State

Bureau of Accounts

MEMORANDUM

Feb. 13, 1931.

Mr. Stewart,
Diplomatic Bureau.

All accounts with supporting
vouchers to December 31, 1913, for expenditures
made by J. B. Jackson, American Consul
at Aleppo in behalf of British interests,
were transmitted by the Department of State
to the British Ambassador at Washington,
July 8, 1930, to be forwarded to the British
Government which has undoubtedly received
them by now, and whatever payments were made
by Mr. Jackson, will be with the Aleppo
account.

According to the correspondence
there is no wonder the deposit cannot be
traced by the American officials at London
and Constantinople as neither received the
actual deposit. The check was sent to the
British Foreign Office which took credit
for amount £300.- and then asked the Ambassador
at London to have the Ambassador at
Constantinople instruct Jackson to make the
payments. This the Embassy at Constantinople
did on April 10, 1916, when it requested
the Consul to pay Turkish Liras 330, which
is the equivalent of 300 Pounds Sterling.

A detailed statement may be
obtained from

Department of State

Bureau of Accounts

MEMORANDUM

(2)

obtained from Mr. Jackson who is now at
Aleppo, if the necessary information is
not with his account.

So far as the actual sum of £300.0.0.
is concerned, if no payments were made by
Mr. Jackson, the £300.0.0. should be paid
to the Trustees of the British Museum by the
British Foreign Office as a refund, and in
case payments have been made the British
Government owes the United States, as the
funds disbursed by Mr. Jackson were received
from proceeds of drafts drawn by the American
Ambassador at Constantinople on the Secretary
of State of the United States. Mr. Jackson
received his funds by drawing drafts on the
Ambassador at Constantinople. The amounts
disbursed for British interests in Turkey by
the United States has been billed to Great
Britain under date of July 8, 1930.

URG?

Mac

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Diplomatic Bureau

MEMORANDUM

2/11/31

Ac

Can you handle this,
or if not properly your
matter, can you
help solve the matter?

W.R.S.

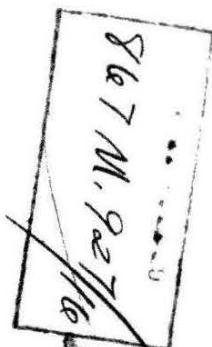


No. 4124.

LONDON, January 27, 1921



ansd
February 14, 1921.
February 28, 1921.



FEB 23 1921
FILED

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:-

I have the honor to enclose herewith copies of correspondence with relation to a deposit of £200.0.0., made by the Trustees of the British Museum in March 1916, and which was transmitted to the American Embassy in Constantinople on March 25, 1916. This deposit was transmitted to the American Consul at Aleppo, Mr. J.B. Jackson, in order to meet an account of £34.11.6.,

paid

paid by Mr. Jackson to Messrs Akras of Aleppo, and to leave a balance in the Consul's hands for future use.

On May 3, 1920 the Trustees of the British Museum sent a Note to the Embassy enquiring as to the balance of £165.8.6., for which the Trustees have received no account. Enquiry has been made of the American High Commissioner to Turkey who states in reply that he has been unable to find any record in the archives of the former Embassy at Constantinople of the receipt of the sum of £200.0.0 in question. He suggests that the vouchers covering the expenditures have been forwarded to Washington with other British Relief accounts.

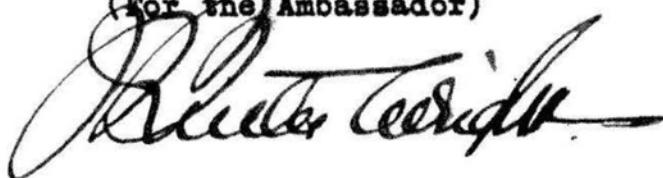
I have the honor to request therefore that you will furnish me with such information as you may have at your disposal in order that I may reply to the Trustees of the British Museum in answer to their enquiry.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(For the Ambassador)



Enclosures:- Copies of correspondence.

COPY.

UNITED STATES HIGH COMMISSION

AMERICAN EMBASSY

CONSTANTINOPLE

November 3, 1920.

The Honorable

John W. Davis,

American Ambassador,

London.

Sir:-

I have the honor to refer to your communication of May 20, requesting the High Commissioner to furnish you a report relative to a sum of £200.0.0 supposed to have been placed at the disposition of the Consul at Aleppo by the British Museum to cover certain expenses incurred in connection with the British Museum Excavations interests at Jerablous.

The High Commissioner directs me to inform you in reply that after a careful search of the records of the former Embassy he has been unable to find any record of the receipt of the sum of £200.0.0 in question.

There is on record an instruction from Mr. Philip to Mr. Jackson dated April 10, 1916 authorizing him to use Ltqs. 220 for the account of the British Museum interests at Jerablous and to charge same to British Relief. The records show that Mr. Jackson actually expended Ltqs. 35 of this sum and charged same to British Relief as directed, the vouchers covering his expenditures being forwarded to Washington along with the British Relief accounts.

If a sum of £200.0.0 was actually deposited by the British Museum somewhere, no special notice of it was taken by the Embassy but it was included in one of the drafts for

several

several thousand dollars which the Embassy drew from time to time on the Secretary of State for British Relief. The Museum shbuld therefore submit this matter to the Department of State in whose hands the British Relief accounts now are.

With reference to the third paragraph of your communication, the High Commissioner directs me to hand you herewith a complete transcript of the reciprocal account between your Embassy and the Embassy at Constantinople opened in 1916. I would appreciate receiving a similar transcript of your books in order that the two may be compared and some conclusion arrived at. I would add that there is no money here for the settlement of any claims which you may have against the former Embassy. It may however be possible to ascertain what disposition was made of any money that may be due you, if any is due you, and thus make settlement.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For the High Commissioner.

CHARLES A. ALLEN.

COPY.

Embassy of the United
States of America.

LONDON, May 20, 1920.

Sir:

By direction of the Ambassador I have to reply to your letter of May 3rd, asking for a statement of the expenditures made out of the sum of £200 which was forwarded on March 16, 1916, to the United States Consul at Aleppo in connection with certain excavations at Jerablus. I am to inform you that the American High Commissioner at Constantinople has been requested to forward the desired statement. Immediately upon receipt, I shall not fail to communicate with you.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Wm. S. HOWELL, Jr.

Second Secretary of Embassy.

F. G. Kenyon, Esq.,
British Museum,
W.C. 1.

COPY.

The American Ambassador in London presents his compliments to the American High Commissioner at Constantinople, and has to refer to Note No.18 of March 25, 1916, from the Embassy in London, relative to the excavations being made at Jerablus by the British Museum and to previous correspondence on the subject.

In this connection a copy of a letter, dated the 3rd instant, from the British Museum to Mr. Davis is transmitted herewith enclosed which asks for a statement of the account of £200 forwarded on March 16, 1916, through the Embassy's Consulate in Constantinople to the Consul at Aleppo to meet an account of £34.11.6, due to Messrs Akras of Aleppo and for other expenses in connection with these excavations.

Mr. Davis also ventures to request Admiral Bristol, if the records are available, to furnish him with a statement of the reciprocal account between the two Embassies which was opened in 1916 and covered various remittances and payments, other than the British Museum account.

May 20, 1920

COPY.

BRITISH MUSEUM

LONDON W.C.1.

3 May, 1920.

Sir,

During the early years of the war The United States Embassy at Constantinople gave valuable assistance to the Trustees of the British Museum by keeping up communication with the men left in charge of the Museum's excavations at Jerablus (Carchemish), in the neighbourhood of Aleppo. The United States Consul at Aleppo, with the Ambassador's authority, undertook to make payments to these men from funds forwarded by the Trustees through the U.S. Embassies at London and Constantinople. A letter to this effect from the Consul, Mr. J. B. Jackson, to the Ambassador at Constantinople, dated Jan. 20, 1916, was forwarded to the Ambassador in London on Feb. 7th, and by him communicated to the Foreign Office on Feb. 26th of that year. Accordingly the Trustees, on March 16th, forwarded a sum of £200 through the Chief Clerk, Foreign Office, to the U.S. Embassy in London, for eventual transmission to Mr. Jackson, in order to meet an account of £34.11.6, due to Messrs Akras, of Aleppo, as forwarded by Mr. Jackson, and to leave a balance in the Consul's hands for future use.

It will be seen that there was thus a balance of £165.8.6, left in Mr. Jackson's hands, with regard to which the Trustees have received no account. The entry of America into the war naturally cut off this means of communication with Aleppo, and the Trustees do not know how much of this money had been spent before that date. Accordingly I am directed by the Trustees to ask whether Your Excellency could

His Excellency The American Ambassador

could once more assist them by causing enquiries to be addressed to Constantinople as to the possibility of obtaining an account of the sum in question.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

F. G. KENYON.

COPY.

Constantinople, February 7, 1916.

His Excellency,

The Honorable Walter Hines Page,

American Ambassador,

London,

Sir:-

With reference to your letter of November 23rd, enclosing British Foreign Office Note dated November 20th, I have the honor to enclose herewith copy of a despatch from our Consul at Aleppo together with an account of Messrs. Akras Frères with the British Museum in connection with the excavating expedition at Jerablus.

The Consul suggests that funds be placed at the disposition of the Consulate, in case the British Museum intends to retain the employees at Jerablus; and that matters pertaining to the employees be left to his discretion.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HOFFMAN PHILIP

Enclosures:
as stated.

Chargé d'Affaires.

COPY.

No. 498.

AMERICAN CONSULATE

Aleppo, Suria, January 20, 1916.

The Honorable

Henry Morgenthau,

American Ambassador,

Constantinople, Turkey.

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Embassy's instructions dated December 8, 1915, enclosing a copy of a communication from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs at London to the American Ambassador at that place in reference to the payment of £200 to Akras Freres of Aleppo through their representatives, Messrs. Poche and Company, which money was destined by the British Museum to pay their employees at Jerablus in connection with their excavations at the latter place, in the vicinity of Aleppo.

In order to clear up the situation this Consulate requested Messrs Akras Freres to submit an accounting of the expenditures made to the employees of the Museum at Jerablus, for, notwithstanding the firm of Poche and Company had retained the £200, as mentioned in the communication of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Messrs. Akras Freres had proceeded with the payment of the employees.

I now transmit herewith a copy of the account furnished by Messrs Akras Freres, and which is self-explanatory.

If the Museum intends to continue the employees at Jerablus, it is suggested that funds be placed at the

disposition

disposition of this Consulate for their remuneration. Also, that the Consulate be left free to decide how many such employees are necessary, and who shall be so engaged. This for the purpose of economy as well to more effectually safeguard the interests of the museum.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. JACKSON

Consul.

COPY.

The American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, with reference to Sir Edward Grey's note of November 20th last, relative to the payment of Two hundred pounds to Akras Freres of Aleppo for the employees of the British Museum at Jerablus, has the honour to transmit herewith copy of a communication, dated the 20th ultimo, addressed to the Ambassador at Constantinople by the Consul at Aleppo, together with the copy of account therewith, enclosed, which Mr. Page has received from the Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople, under date of the 7th instant.

LONDON, February 26th 1916.

COPY.

No. 51065/16/P

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and, with reference to His Excellency's Note of the 26th ultimo, and previous correspondence respecting the excavations at Jerablus, has the honour to transmit to Mr. Page herewith, for the information of the United States Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople, copy of a further letter which has been received in this connection from the Trustees of the British Museum, and to state that he will be greatly obliged if Mr. Philip can be requested to arrange for the disposal of £200. the equivalent of the sum of Two hundred pounds, from the Fund for British Relief, in the manner indicated by Sir F. G. Kenyon.

FOREIGN OFFICE,

23 Mar. 1916.

COPY.

(51065)

BRITISH MUSEUM

LONDON. W.C.

16th March 1916.

Sir,

I am directed by the Trustees of the British Museum to ask you to convey to Sir Edward Grey their sincere thanks for the information contained in your letter of the 4th March with regard to the excavations at Jerablus.

The account transmitted by the United States Ambassador makes the position clear, and shows that Messrs. Akras have now given credit for the sum of £200 which was paid by the Trustees, at their request, to their agent in Manchester.

The trustees now desire to discharge their outstanding liability of £34.11s.6d., and at the same time to place in the hands of the United States Consul at Aleppo a sum to be used at his discretion for safeguarding the interests of the Museum in the excavations at Jerablus.

I accordingly enclose a cheque for £200 made payable as you suggest, and the Trustees will be much obliged if you will cause this sum to be transmitted to Mr. Jackson through the United States Ambassador in Constantinople.

The Trustees desire at the same time to renew their cordial thanks to the United States Ambassador in London and Constantinople, and to the United States Consul at Aleppo, for the continuance of their friendly services in this matter.

I am etc.,

(signed) F.G.KENZON.

The Under Secretary of State,

FOREIGN OFFICE.

COPY.

No. 18.

With reference to the communication, dated the 7th ultmo, of the Embassy at Constantinople, relative to the British Museum excavations at Jerablus, the Embassy in London has the honor to transmit herewith copy of a Foreign Office note, dated the 23rd instant, with enclosure, concerning this subject.

LONDON, March 25, 1916.

To the

American Embassy,

CONSTANTINOPLE.

No. 1205-

The Honorable

John W. Davis,

American Ambassador,
London.

February 23, 1921.

Sir:

The Department has received your despatch No. 4124 of January 27, 1921, enclosing copies of correspondence in regard to a deposit of £200 made by the Trustees of the British Museum in March 1916, and transmitted to the American Embassy at Constantinople on March 25 of that year.

In reply you are informed that all accounts with supporting vouchers up to December 31, 1916, for expenditures in behalf of British interests made by Mr. J. B. Jackson, American Consul at Aleppo were July 6, 1920, transmitted by the Department of State to the British Embassy here to be forwarded to the British Government. That Government has undoubtedly received the papers by now, and the Aleppo account should show whatever payments were made by Mr. Jackson.

The actual deposit of the £200 was received neither by the American officials at London nor those at Constantinople. The check was sent to the British Foreign Office, which took credit for the amount of £200, and the American Ambassador at Constantinople, pursuant

to

59/1/2 ab inc. 1/28

to the request of your Embassy, instructed Mr. Jackson to make the payments. The American Embassy at Constantinople took this action April 10, 1916, requesting Consul Jackson to pay 220 Turkish liras, the equivalent of £200 sterling. If the necessary information is not shown by Mr. Jackson's account, the Department will, if the British Government so desires, ask for a detailed statement from the Consul who is now at Aleppo.

So far as the actual sum of £200 is concerned it may be pointed out that if no payments were made by Mr. Jackson, the sum stated should be paid to the Trustees of the British Museum by the British Foreign Office as a refund. It further appears that in case payments have been made, the British Government is indebted to that of the United States, since the funds disbursed by Mr. Jackson were received from proceeds of drafts drawn by the American Ambassador at Constantinople on the Secretary of State of the United States. Mr. Jackson received these funds by drawing drafts on the American Ambassador at Constantinople.

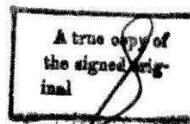
The amounts disbursed by the United States for British interests in Turkey were billed to Great Britain July 6, 1920.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For the Secretary of State:
John S. Marine-Smith

867 M.927/165
AC-DI-BB/ADM-SS



ALVEY A. ADEB
FEB 16 1921

AC Di *[Signature]*
W.W.M.

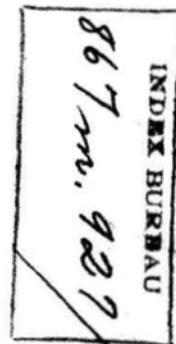
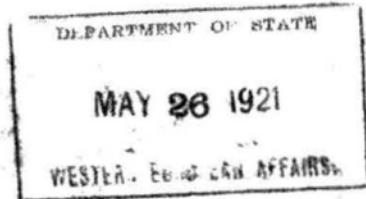


708
gib
1000

LONDON, May 6, 1921.

No. 4628

~~Mr. Secretary
Account to
January 1st April 24th & June 1917
April 1st April 24th & June 1917
July 1st July 20th 1921~~



JUL 20 1921 F
Filed

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

867m.927/165

Upon receipt of your instruction No. 1205 of February 23, 1921, in regard to a deposit of £200 made by the Trustees of the British Museum in March, 1916, and transmitted to the American Embassy at Constantinople on March 25 of that year, I caused the matter to be

brought

brought informally to the attention of Sir F. Kenyon
of the British Museum, and I now have the honor to
transmit herewith in triplicate, copies of a communica-
tion from the Foreign Office on this subject, No. E
3746/2518/44, dated May 3, 1921.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Enclosure:

- 1/ Letter from Foreign Office to
Mr. Wright, No. E 3746/2518/44
of May 3, 1921.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.,

May 3rd, 1921.

Sir:-

With reference to your note of the 10th March to Sir P. Kenyon of the British Museum on the subject of expenditures by Mr. J. B. Jackson in connection with certain excavations at Jerablus, I have the honour to inform you that details have been secured regarding the expenditures up to December 1916, but that no accounts have been received for those from January to April 1917.

2. I should therefore be grateful if, as suggested in their despatch of the 23rd February, the Department of State at Washington could be moved to supply a detailed statement of the expenditure for the missing period, together with the rates of exchange used in connection with the whole of the payments.

I have the honour to be,
with high consideration,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,
(For the Secretary of State)

(Signed) LANCELOT CLIFFANT

J. Butler Wright, Esq.,
etc., etc., etc.

DOCUMENT FILE

NOTE

SEE 268.927 /- FOR letter

FROM Am. Society for Excavation () DATED Jan. 7, 1922
TO of Sardis (Butler) NAME

INDEX BUREAU

REGARDING: Requests European Powers to secure protection for historical & archaeological monuments in lands which formerly constituted the Ottoman Empire & protection of rights & privileges of Am. archaeologists in those countries. Requests inclusion of the clauses in Treaty of Sèvres which provide for protection of antiquities & rights of excavators in any new Treaty with Turkey.

leb

YALE UNIVERSITY

SECRETARY'S OFFICE

NEW HAVEN, CONN.

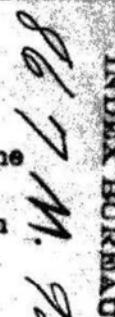
March 12, 1919.

Hon. Frank L. Polk,
State Department,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:-



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

APR 28 1919
DIVISION OF
THE SECRETARY OF STATE

I write on behalf of the authorities of Yale University to request the good offices of the government in securing through the American Commissioner in Constantinople a firman for Yale University to carry on excavations in Antioch in Central Asia Minor. The money for these excavations, over ten thousand dollars, has already been subscribed and the work will be carried on by scholars of Yale University in co-operation with Sir William Ramsay, who has requested that any rights which he had under the previous Turkish government for excavations in Antioch be transferred to Yale.

* I enclose a copy of a letter from Mr. W. H. Buckler, Special Agent of the Embassy of the United States in London, to Sir William Ramsay suggesting that this application be made through your office.

The object of these excavations is archaeological and it is, of course, understood that all regulations of the Turkish government or of mandatories with reference to works of art that may be discovered will be scrupulously observed. The plan of the Professors of Yale University is to visit Antioch, if conditions permit, about a year from this time.

I shall very much appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

I am, with great respect,

Very truly yours,

RMC/

C O P Y

LONDON, February 10, 1919.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 25th ultimo relative to the desire of Yale University to obtain a Firman for excavations in Asia Minor, I am directed by the Ambassador to inform you that he is not in a position to act in such a matter without instructions from the Secretary of State in Washington.

I venture to suggest that the procedure which would involve the least delay would be that Yale University should approach the Department of State in Washington, and request it to issue instructions to the American Commissioner in Constantinople. If it were further desired that you should go to Constantinople to assist in the matter, instructions might also be issued to this Embassy, asking that His Majesty's Government be requested to grant to you the necessary facilities for going to Turkey, but without specific instructions neither this Embassy nor our Commissioner at Constantinople can take action in the sense desired.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) W. H. Buckley.

Special Agent.

Sir William Ramsay, D.D., LL.D.,

41, Braid Avenue,

Edinburgh,

N.B.

BOOK OF INDEXES
AND ARCHIVES

RECEIVED

APR 24 1922

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

File Under File



March 20, 1919.

Dear Mr. Polk:

The matter of archeological excavations in Turkey is governed by a special Regulation. In virtue of that Regulation permits are granted for a period of six months, one year, or two years. The period of two years may be renewed under certain conditions. Under certain other conditions these permits lapse.

It would thus be important to know the date when Sir William Ramsay obtained his permit, how long he excavated, what his rights were just before the declaration of war between Great Britain and Turkey, and what the effects of the declaration of war were on these rights. With the knowledge of the present status of his case we may be able to know what rights, if any, Sir William still has to-day.

After these preliminary remarks I beg to submit the following points:

1. In conformity with the provisions of the above mentioned Regulation, it is forbidden to the person to whom such a permit has been granted to cede it or to sell it to any one else. It would therefore be doubtful if Sir William Ramsay could "transfer" any rights he may still have in the premises.

2. If Sir William's rights have lapsed, a representative

INDEX BUREAU

FILED
APR 24 1922

RECORDED
APR 24

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

2

of Yale University might possibly secure permission to carry on excavations at Antioch in Asia Minor. But in reality that would be requesting a new permit.

3. The American Commissioner at Constantinople has no official relations with the Turkish authorities.

Even in normal times, these permits were issued upon a petition addressed to the Imperial Museum, or the Department of Public Instruction and signed by the intending excavator, and not upon a note sent by the Diplomatic Mission to the Turkish Foreign Office, - although the Diplomatic Mission followed up the matter and extended all possible assistance to such excavator, if one of its nationals.

Under the present circumstances, however, Mr. Heck is not in a position to act on behalf of Yale University.

If, however, as a matter of policy, you think that the moment is opportune to ask the Turkish Government any favors, and if Yale University is anxious to have a share in these archeological excavations, and wishes to help Sir William, who intends to continue his connection with them, and if at the same time the British authorities are willing to act in the matter, the following course might be adopted. Sir William may possibly secure from the British Government instructions to the British High Commissioner at Constantinople to inform the

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

3

competent Turkish authorities that the work of these excavations will be resumed and continued under the auspices of and with funds furnished by Yale University, and that it is desired that the permit be amended accordingly and given to the University. Yale University may at the same time send power of Attorney to some one at Constantinople to act for the University. The British High Commissioner may then make the necessary recommendations to the Turkish authorities and the representative of the University may attend to the details.

This mode of action does not entirely agree with the provisions of the Regulation, but during the present abnormal times it may work, and once the Permit has been so granted and accepted it is not likely that its validity may be reasonably questioned in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. G. W.", is written over a horizontal line.